WEDNESDAY
June 25, 2025

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
16 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

www.thehindu.com

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

https://newsth.live/fb
https://newsth.live/x
https://newsth.live/ig

RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945

Vol. 56 • No. 150

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna

CRITICAL AREAS

DGCA audit reveals multiple violations

NEWS » PAGE 12

QINGDAO SCO MEET

Rajnath likely to discuss regional peace efforts

NEWS » PAGE 10

ADVANCE CLAIMS

EPFO enhances limit for auto-settlement

NEWS » PAGE 12

RESET IN WEST ASIA

What matters to the world

Right and wrong getting overlooked as long as warring sides 'de-escalate'

EDITORIAL » PAGE 8

SIZZLING CHASE

Duckett on song as England wins opener

SPORT » PAGE 15

Israel-Iran ceasefire is 'in effect', says Trump

U.S. President rebukes both sides following accusations of truce violations before it was to take effect on Tuesday morning; Trump issues public demand to U.S. ally Israel to stand down

Stanly Johny
DOHA

U.S. President Donald Trump said on Tuesday that a ceasefire between Israel and Iran was "in effect", after the truce announced by him earlier seemed to unravel following accusations of violations from both sides, prompting him to curse the two West Asian countries and issue a rare public demand to Israel to stand down.

The day witnessed dramatic developments as both Israel and Iran carried out massive strikes against each other in the final hours before the intended start of a 7 a.m. ceasefire (Doha time), announced by the U.S. President. The Israeli military said it struck eight ballistic missile launchers in western Iran. Tehran fired at least 20 ballistic missiles in six barrages. Four people were killed and at least 22 injured in Iran's missile attacks.

Both Israeli and Iranian officials said they accepted the ceasefire. "In light of achieving the objectives of the campaign... Israel agreed to the [U.S.] President's proposal for a mutual ceasefire," the office of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said in a statement.

Dust settles: The remains of a ballistic missile fired by Iran in northern Israel on Tuesday. REUTERS

Israel claimed missiles were fired at 10.30 a.m., which it blamed on Iran. Defence Minister Israel Katz said he had ordered the military to respond "forcefully" in Tehran. Mr. Trump, however, warned against any response. "Israel, do not drop those bombs. If you do it is a major violation," he wrote in all capital letters in a social media post, asking America's closest ally to stand down. Despite the warning, Israel carried an airstrike against an Iranian radar north of Tehran, but stopped short of launching any major attack.

Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian said Tehran would respect the ceasefire if Israel does the same.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 10
EDITORIAL » PAGE 8
MORE REPORTS ON » PAGES 7 & 14

2,296 Indians evacuated, Iran help desk closed

NEW DELHI

The Ministry of External Affairs on Tuesday said that 2,295 Indians have been evacuated from Iran and 594 from Israel under Operation Sindhu since the airlift operation began. On Tuesday, 292 Indian nationals arrived here from Mashhad of Iran where the Indian embassy said it was closing its help desk following the ceasefire announcement. » PAGE 10

Had invited Rahul for talks on voter roll issue, says EC

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

While Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi demanded the immediate release of machine-readable digital voter rolls as well as CCTV footage of the Maharashtra Assembly election on Tuesday, the Election Commission (EC) said that it had invited the Congress leader for an interaction on the issue 10 days ago, but has not received any response yet.

"You are welcome to write to us and the Commission is also willing to meet you in person at a mutually convenient date and time to discuss all issues. A convenient date and time may be communicated in this regard," a letter to Mr. Gandhi dated June 12 had said.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 10

Railways considers a marginal hike in fares from July 1

Maitri Porecha
NEW DELHI

Train travel is likely to get slightly costlier with Indian Railways considering an increase in fares from July 1.

Official sources said here on Tuesday that the passenger fare for non-air-conditioned coaches in mail and express trains would be raised by 1 paise a kilometre, and for AC coaches by 2 paise a kilometre.

Suburban and monthly season ticket rates will remain unchanged. There will be no increase for ordinary second-class tickets up to 500 kilometres. "However, a hike is being considered for train tickets in ordinary second class for a journey distance exceeding 500 km at the rate of half a paise per km," a source said.

Data available with the Railway Ministry show 715 crore passengers travelled by train between April 2024 and March 2025, which includes 81 crore in AC and sleeper class and 634 crore in unreserved coaches. The Railways earned ₹75,750 crore from passenger revenue in the financial year 2024-25.

The train fare is being increased after five years.

Suburban, monthly season ticket rates will remain unchanged. FILE PHOTO

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 10

NEARBY

Congress asks Siddaramaiah to rein in legislators

BENGALURU
Chief Minister Siddaramaiah is learnt to have been asked by the Congress central leadership to rein in the party legislators who have been making accusations of lack of funds and corruption. » Page 6

Support price for mango announced

BENGALURU
In a relief for mango farmers in Karnataka, the Centre has announced a market intervention price for the produce at ₹1,616 a quintal under the Market Intervention Scheme for 2025-26. » Page 6

OPPORTUNITIES » PAGE 5

16 flights cancelled to and from city

Hemanth C.S.
BENGALURU

Due to the closure of certain airspaces in West Asia, several flights have been cancelled from the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA). The cancelled flights include six arrivals and 10 departures. Some of these flights were scheduled to arrive and depart on Monday and Tuesday.

"As of now, we have six arrival and 10 departures of international flights cancelled due to unrest in the Gulf region," airport sources said.

Those affected

Airport sources said the arrivals which were cancelled were three Indigo flights from Doha, Abu Dhabi, and Jeddah, one Kuwait Airways flight from Kuwait, one Akasa Air flight from Abu Dhabi, and one Air India flight from London.

The departures that were cancelled were four Indigo flights to Jeddah, Abu Dhabi, Doha, and Dubai, a Kuwait Airways flight to Kuwait, one Akasa Air flight to Abu Dhabi, two Air India Express flights to Dammam and Abu Dhabi, one Gulf Air flight to Bahrain, and an Air India flight to London.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 5

AXIS MAX
LIFE INSURANCE
INVEST IN
DOUBLE BHAROSA TODAY.
ENJOY DOUBLE SUKOON TOMORROW.
Give your loved ones the future they deserve, with Guaranteed Returns and Instant Income.
Protect the dreams of your loved ones, even in your absence.
Flexible income options to match your life goals.
Instant payout today. Guaranteed income tomorrow.
BHAROSA TUM HO
Visit
Axis Max Life Insurance
Or Contact Our Life Advisor
₹1.7 LAKH CRORE ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT
*As per Public Disclosure for H1 FY25.
These benefits are available with Axis Max Life Smart VIBE (Value Income and Benefit Enhancer Plan, UIN: 104N159V01) and other savings plan from Axis Max Life Insurance.
The Brand Ambassadors as depicted herein, have endorsed only the Axis Max Life Insurance Products and are not in any manner endorsing Axis Bank Limited and do not have any kind of association or relationship with Axis Bank Limited. Axis Max Life Insurance Limited (formely known as Max Life Insurance Company Limited) is a Joint Venture between Max Financial Services Limited and Axis Bank Limited. Corporate Office: 11th Floor, DLF Square Building, Jacaranda Marg, DLF City Phase II, Gurugram (Haryana) - 122 002. You can call us on our Customer Helpline No. 1860 120 5577. Website: https://www.axismaxlife.com.
ARN: Axis Max Life/FCB/Savings Print Ad/June 2025
IRDAI Regn. No. 104
BEWARE OF SPURIOUS / FRAUD PHONE CALLS!
• IRDAI is not involved in activities like selling insurance policies, announcing bonus or investment of premiums
• Public receiving such phone calls are requested to lodge a police complaint

Mathews bows out as a stalwart who gave it his all for Sri Lanka

The all-rounder, fourth in the list of the island nation's most capped Test players with 119 appearances over a 16-year span, will no longer don the white flannels; just as Sangakkara, Jayawardene and Muralitharan were irreplaceable following their retirements, the 38-year-old's absence will leave a big void

Vivek Krishnan

Muttiah Muralitharan was hoisted by his teammates on their shoulders amid raucous cheer from a captivated crowd when he signed off in Test cricket with 800 scalps and a resounding 10-wicket victory against a star-studded India in Galle in July 2010. When Kumar Sangakkara hung up his boots in August 2015, also against India in Colombo, he was Sri Lanka's highest-ever run-scorer and widely feted as one of the greatest batters from the subcontinent. A few months prior to Sangakkara's exit, his close friend Mahela Jayawardene bid adieu with a half-century in his final innings in an emphatic 105-run win over Pakistan at Colombo.

In terms of longevity and straining every sinew for Sri Lanka, Angelo Mathews, fourth on the list of the country's most capped Test players with 119 appearances over a 16-year span, is right up there with the illustrious names just mentioned. But it is symptomatic of Sri Lanka's corrosive decline over the past decade that Mathews' Test career came to a close last Saturday after a drab draw against Bangladesh in Galle even as the attention of the cricketing world was firmly fixed on a mouthwatering battle between heavyweights England and India at Headingley.

When the 38-year-old walked out to bat for the final time in his Test career, Sri Lanka was 34 for two on day five and attempting to salvage a stalemate in a contest where both teams piled on big first-innings totals. He chewed up 45 deliveries and scored eight runs before an inside-edge onto his pad off left-arm spinner Taijul Islam popped to Mominul Haque at silly point. In the first essay, after getting a guard of honour from the Bangladesh players, he fell to Mominul's slow left-arm orthodox on 39.

Having been dropped from the T20I team a year ago and the ODI team after the 2023 World Cup in India – where he became the first batter in international cricket, incidentally against Bangladesh, to be dismissed timed out – Mathews' decision to announce his Test retirement ahead of the Bangladesh series was a matter of practicality rather than necessarily losing the drive to train and compete. With Sri Lanka's next Test assignment against the West Indies in the Caribbean being a year away – a grim reality about the ICC Future Tours Programme (FTP) that highlights the chasm between the 'Big Three' and the other Test-playing nations – he saw little point in carrying on beyond the Galle Test. He remains available for selection in the white-ball formats.

"I played my 100th Test in Galle, so I thought I'd say goodbye in Galle. But the main reason was because we don't have any games coming up, at least for now. After this, we'll be having our next assignment in Test cricket after a year's time, that is a very long wait," Mathews told the media ahead of his Test farewell versus Bangladesh.

"I thought it's good to give an opportunity to whoever is going to replace me in the second Test, because he's not going to get an opportunity till the next year. And in that year, you don't know what's going to happen. So I thought I'd just play one game and then try and give an opportunity to the other guy who's replacing me in the second Test."

It may not be the ideal way to walk into the sunset, but that shouldn't take anything away from Mathews' stellar Test career. To finish with 8214 runs at an average of 44.4 with 16 centuries, including a best of 200, means he will go down as one of Sri Lanka's most prolific run-makers behind Sangakkara and Jayawardene. He was also a shrewd medium-pacer before a body battered by injuries compelled him to cut down on his bowling.

AFP, AP

All-round skill

Right from the moment that he burst onto the international scene in 2009, it felt like Sri Lanka had found a pot of gold. In a nation traditionally starved of genuine pace-bowling all-rounders, much like neighbouring India, Mathews was a ray of sunshine with all the right ingredients to become one of the best of his breed in the business.

Certainly in the first half of his career, as part of a highly-skilled and eclectic Sri Lankan outfit shaped by the sharp minds of Sangakkara and Jayawardene, Mathews' performances were on par with the high expectations.

Sample his numbers till the end of 2015: after 56 Tests, he had tallied 4015 runs at 50.18. With the ball as well, 30 of the 33 scalps that he has ended with came in this period.

He was at his peak as a Test batter across 2013 and 2014, averaging more than 70 in both years and producing stupendous knocks that embodied his game awareness and sublime range. A case in point is a Test against Pakistan at Abu Dhabi that began on December 31, 2013. Across two innings, Mathews, who had become captain earlier that year, showcased starkly contrasting and yet equally effective approaches. In the first, he strode in at 76 for four with Jayawardene already back in the pavilion. Soon, Sri Lanka would be 82 for five with Sangakkara, too, making the long walk back. Mathews' riposte was a brilliant, counterattacking 91 off just 127 balls in a modest total of 204. Second time around, with Pakistan amassing a lead of 179 runs, the Lankans were effectively seven for four and on the cusp of defeat when Mathews marked his guard at the start of day four. What followed was a show of supreme defiance as Mathews dug in for seven hours and 34 minutes, scoring 157 off 343 deliveries without getting dislodged to help his side eke out a hard-fought draw.

Best knock

As marvellous as these two innings in the desert were, it is hard to look beyond his 160 against England at Headingley in the summer of 2014 as his greatest knock. After scraping a nerve-wracking draw against Alastair Cook's men in the opener at Lord's, where Mathews hit a first-innings ton, the visitors seemed to have no escape route when they were reduced to 277 for seven, an overall lead of just 169 runs, in the second dig in Leeds. But Mathews, once again, stood up to be the saviour.

With Rangana Herath willing to put a price on his wicket at the other end, Mathews, all nous and nerves of steel, delivered a masterclass in batting with the tail. He cobbled together a 149-run stand for the eighth wicket with the left-arm spinner against an English attack led by James Anderson as Sri Lanka stretched its total to 457 and secured a memorable 1-0 series win. That he had figures of 16-4-44-4 in the first innings was a testament to his all-round prowess.

In the shorter formats, too, Mathews was irrepressible. Just how significant he was to the set-up can be understood from Sangakkara's assertion that the all-rounder's absence for the 2011 ODI World Cup final against India due to injury was a major factor in Sri Lanka's defeat.

"If you take our entire campaign, whatever we did, Mathews' overs and his ability to bat with the tail and read situations was an incredible bonus to us. He was a young chap who came into the side and from day one he could read situations. It's just instinct, how to up the rate, how to control the bowler, when to accelerate. The composition of the side and the fact that we were forced to make the change was to me the turning point," Sangakkara said in a chat with ace off-spinner R. Ashwin in 2020.

Besides the 2011 50-over World Cup, Mathews was also a core member of the team that finished runner-up in the 2009 and 2012 T20 World Cups. The curse of losing a spree of finals came to an end in the 2014 edition when the islanders got past India by six wickets to give Sangakkara and Jayawardene a perfect swansong from the shortest format. Mathews, as ever, played his part with figures of one for 25 in four overs.

In these years, Mathews was able to feed off the imposing presence of Sangakkara and Jayawardene and do his thing. But once the two grizzled veterans walked away in quick succession, Mathews had to bear a bulk of the burden as the skipper and senior statesman. Curiously, he played more matches than anyone else in international cricket from 2010 to 2015, which perhaps resulted in the spate of injuries and fitness issues in the latter half of his career.

Mathews hit rock bottom in 2018 when he was sacked as limited-overs captain, removed from the team altogether and mocked for his fitness and running between the wickets by then coach Chandika Hathurusingha. Some others may have found the challenge of bouncing back and silencing detractors at that stage too demanding, but not the man from Colombo.

"It was in 2018 that I sat down with Dilshan Fonseka (men's team trainer) and looked at the amount of injuries that I had. He told me that my body couldn't bear it. So I changed everything – the way I eat, my lifestyle, and my training," Mathews recollected in a recent interview to *ESPNCricinfo*.

And to underline that he isn't the sort of character to take things lying down, he celebrated a rearguard Test hundred against New Zealand in Wellington in December that year by doing push-ups and flexing his right bicep in the direction of Hathurusingha in the Sri Lankan dressing room.

Looking back, Mathews says he doesn't have much to regret in his career except the fact that he didn't join the 10,000-run club in Tests. "I couldn't achieve the 10,000-run mark. But every other thing, I've given my best in every situation," Mathews reflected in that interview. "I've tried to win games for my country in every situation. Giving 100% to your team in every single game is another thing, so I was wanting to play all three formats and contribute with bat, ball, and in the field, in every single game. I was absolutely going for it."

Anybody who watched him over these years will attest to that last bit. Just as Sri Lanka has found it impossible to fill the proverbial big shoes of Muralitharan, Sangakkara and Jayawardene then, Mathews will be an extremely hard act to follow.

THE GIST

- Certainly in the first half of his career, as part of a highly-skilled and eclectic Sri Lankan outfit shaped by the sharp minds of Sangakkara and Jayawardene, Mathews' performances were on par with the high expectations
- It is hard to look beyond his 160 against England at Headingley in the summer of 2014 as his greatest knock. He was at his peak as a Test batter across 2013 and 2014
- Just as Sri Lanka has found it impossible to fill the proverbial big shoes of Muralitharan, Sangakkara and Jayawardene, Mathews will be an extremely hard act to follow

INBRIEF

Presidency University begins academic year

Presidency University began its academic year 2025-26 with an orientation programme on Monday. The event featured Nandini K.R., CEO of ZP Mandya, and Sanjay Mujoo, vice-president at Hewlett Packard Enterprise.

Ms. Nandini shared insights from her journey, emphasising the role of education and family support in personal growth, while encouraging students to focus on learning rather than chasing jobs. Mr. Mujoo discussed the expanding career landscape, urging students to explore diverse opportunities enabled by technology and information access.

Vice-Chancellor Vijayan Immanuel and other university leaders welcomed the students, highlighting the institution's commitment to academic rigor and holistic development.

PNB conducts special 'lok adalat', opens new branch

Punjab National Bank (PNB) recently held a special 'lok adalat' at its Circle Office on M.G. Road to address non-performing asset (NPA) cases under the Debts Recovery Tribunals (DRT) I and II. Circle head Ratish Kumar Singh stated it was the first such event by the Bengaluru Circle. Cases involving NPAs worth ₹10 crore were resolved.

In a separate development, PNB inaugurated a new branch in Sira, Tumakuru district. The branch was opened by MLA T.B. Jayachandra and MLC Chidananda M. Gowda, alongside circle head Ratish Kumar Singh.

BIS hosts 'Manak Samvad' to guide new licencees

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), Bengaluru, organised 'Manak Samvad' on Monday to assist newly certified licence holders in navigating the BIS certification framework. The session provided participants with practical information on licensing procedures, compliance requirements, and the use of BIS online systems.

Participants received an overview of BIS operations, including the conditions of licence, use of the standard mark, changes to operational guidelines, and best practices for inspections and test report submissions.

Narendra Reddy Beesu, director, BIS, Benglauru, in his address stressed the importance of adhering to standards to maintain product quality and safety.

Riders decry 'double standards' in transport policy

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Alleging a double standard by Karnataka's Transport Department on gig workers, members of the Bike Taxi Welfare Association have written an open letter to Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy, urging the government not to take away their right to earn a living.

The riders questioned why two-wheeler delivery agents are allowed to operate freely with white number plates, while bike taxi riders using the same vehicles are penalised for passenger transport.

"It is difficult to understand why two-wheelers used for delivery services are allowed, while those of us providing passenger transport using the same vehicles are subjected to restrictions," the association said in the letter.

"This inconsistency not only threatens our livelihoods but also sends a message that local youth are being excluded from opportunities owing to arbitrary regulatory differences," Adi Naryanan, president of Bike Taxi Welfare Association, stated.

"Bike-taxis provide affordable, fast and accessible transport to working-class citizens, students, and female commuters. Many of the riders earn ₹30,000 to ₹35,000 a month, which supports their families, children's education, and elderly parents. For us, riding a bike taxi is not just a means of transport. It is our bread and butter," the letter reads.

'Govt. can't refuse registration of two-wheelers as transport vehicles'

Petitioners tell High Court that refusal violates the Motor Vehicles Act, which permits two-wheelers to be used as contract carriage transport vehicles; HC was hearing appeals against verdict which said Ola, Uber, and Rapido cannot offer bike-taxis

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government has no power in law to refuse either registration of two-wheelers as transport vehicles or grant of contract carriage permits to them to carry a passenger under the "guise of policy decision" when the Motor Vehicles (MV) Act permits two-wheelers to be used as contract carriage transport vehicles, it was argued before the High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday.

This argument was made before a Division Bench comprising acting Chief Justice V. Kameswar Rao and Justice C.M. Joshi during the hearing of the appeals against the April 2 verdict of a single judge, who had held that Ola, Uber, and Rapido cannot offer bike-taxis on their platform unless the State government notifies relevant guidelines under Section 93 of the MV Act.

A file photo of bike taxis in Bengaluru.

What govt. said

The statement made before the court by the Advocate-General that the government has taken a "policy decision" not to frame rules/guidelines to allow bike-taxis, is contrary to the provisions of the MV Act, it has been argued.

Senior advocate Dhyan Chinnappa, appearing for a few owners of two-wheelers, pointed out that a Division Bench of the High Court in 2021 made it clear that the definition of contract carriage under MV Act include even a motorcycle, to be used for hire and reward on which a passenger could be carried on pillion as notified by the Central government.

The act of the State transport authorities in refusing to register two-wheelers as transport vehicles is a violation of the Act, Mr. Chinnappa contended.

Why is there a provision in the MV Act that prescribes a fine on the permit holder of contract carriage, including two-wheelers, refusing to ply or to carry passengers if law does not recognise registration of two-wheelers as transport vehicles and grant of contract carriage permits, Mr. Chinnappa argued.

Already covered

He also contended that there is no need for separate licence or permission for the aggregators like Ola, Uber, Rapido and others to offer bike-taxis on their platforms as the licence by the State government under the Karnataka On-demand Transportation Technology Aggregators Rules, 2016, is sufficient as it covers motor cabs, which include even two-wheelers.

The Bench adjourned further hearing till June 25. The Bench is hearing appeals filed by Uber India Systems Pvt. Ltd., ANI Technology Pvt. Ltd, which operates Ola services, Roppen Transportation Services Pvt. Ltd., which operates Rapido services, and Varikruti Mahendra Reddy and others, who own two-wheelers. Meanwhile, the Bench permitted the Bike Taxi Welfare Association to join the appeals against the April 2 verdict.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Udyavar Bavit Mahesh C/o Mahesh D Udyawar changed my name to **Udyawar Bavit** vide affidivit dated 23-06-2025 Sworn to Notary B. Chitra Bangalore

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the Public that Original Sale Agreement dated 14.02.2007 registered as document No.37744/2006-07 of Book-I in the office of the Sub-Registrar Kengeri, Bangalore & Original Cancellation of Sale Agreement dated 03.04.2007 registered as document No.52/2007-08 of Book I in the office of the Sub-Registrar JP Nagar, Bangalore in respect of **Site No.109,** measuring **2400 Sq.ft.,** has been lost, All the persons are hereby informed not to deal or carry out any transaction with anyone on the basis of the said Documents.

If anyone has already carried out or being carried out. kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within **07 days** from this present along with that **Police complaint is also given vide Lost Report No. 1668982/2025.**

Y. Sowmya Yadav, Advocate
Samvruddhi Legal, # 83, Ground Floor, 5th 'A' Cross, 21st Main, J.P. Nagar 2nd Phase, Bangalore-78. **M : 9916343921**

CLASSIFIEDS MART

TO ADVERTISE VISIT
www.thehinduads.com
CALL: Bengaluru: 98455 29981 • 080-22071826
Mangaluru: 0824-2417575 • 2417580
Hubballi: 0836-2338600 • 2335700

EDUCATIONAL

GENERAL

ATTENTION!! CLASS 10th, 11th & 12th STUDENTS

CLAT
(COMMON LAW ADMISSION TEST)
5 YEARS LAW
FROM NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITIES

PREPARE FOR
CLAT 2026-27
ADMISSIONS OPEN
• FOUNDATION BATCH
2 Years Program For 10th Pass Students
• TARGET BATCH
1 Year Program For 11th Pass Students
• DROPPER'S BATCH
1 Year Program For 12th Pass Students
JAI KUMAR AIR CLAT 2024
LPT CLASS ROOM STUDENT (ID: 30574763)
LAW PREP Tutorial
CLAT Prep at it's Best!
OUR BENGALURU CENTERS
JAYANAGAR VIJAYANAGAR MALLESHWARAM
Ph.: +91 97423 76459
JODHPUR | JAIPUR | PATNA | BHOPAL | LUCKNOW | PRAYAGRAJ | DEHRADUN
MUZAFFARPUR | RANCHI | BENGALURU | DELHI | JABALPUR | KANPUR | GURGAON

SITUATION VACANT

GENERAL

CBSE School in Kerala
hiring!
A leading group CBSE Schools looking for
COMMUNICATIVE ENGLISH TEACHERS
Attractive Salary + Free Accommodation
WhatsApp your CV
9605533633
hello@talktale.in
TALK TALE INTERNATIONAL

BUSINESS OFFERS

INVESTMENT REQUIRED
M SAND & JELLY CRUSHER
Factory required
INVESTORS
(0) 95974 15379
msandjally@gmail.com

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Mohamed Rahamath Ulla S/O, Mohammed Khasim R/o No. 315, 5th Cross, Thanisandra Main Road Near Sadiq Masjid Ashwath Nagar, dr. Shivarama Karanth Nagar Bangalore-560077 have changed my name to Mohammed Rahamathulla.

I, Nilima Joseph D/o Joshua Vendoti Ex W/o Romel Joseph Residing at Flat No 402, 4th Floor, Park Regency, St Thomas Town, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560084, I Got Divorce From My Ex-husband Vide Court Decree & Cnr No M.c./1813/2022 Dated 19-03-2022 I Have Changed My Name From Nilima Joseph to Nilima Joshua for All Future Purposes.

I, Manikandan Sankaranarayanan S/o Sankaranarayanan R/o Flat No. 211 Jmr Rose Apartments, Doddathogur, Electronic City Phase 1, Vtc Electrnics City, Po: Electronics City, District: Bengaluru, State: Karnataka-560100, Have Changed the Name of My Minor Daughter Namely M Jenita (Aged 14 Years) and She Shall Hereafter Be Known as Janvika Manikandan for All Future Purposes.

TO BOOK
THANKSGIVING
Advertisements
in
THE HINDU
Contact:
080 - 22071800 / 22864240
080 - 22071826 / 22071827
Rate per advertisement
(3.5 X 5 cms)
Rs. 790/-

LEGAL NOTICE

In the Court of the Honourable Commercial District Judge of Coimbatore
I.A. NO. 13 OF 2024
C.O.S. NO. 46 OF 2023

M/s. **Sri Venkateswara Packings,**
A registered partnership Firm (Regn. No. 78/1982) carrying on its business at S.F.1B-I, Vilankurichi Village, Sathy Main Road, **Saravanampatti** Post, **Coimbatore** - 641 035
Rep.by its partner
Mr.S.Velusamy
- Petitioner/Plaintiff
- vs -
Minor S. Varshini,
D/o. Late S. Saravanakumar No. 8D, Vahe Landmark Apartments, 215, Varthur Main Road, Gunjur, **Bengaluru**-560087
Rep. by her Mother/guardian /next friend V. Amudha
- Respondent no. 4 / Defendant no. 4

NOTICE

The plaintiff above has filed the above suit against you seeking for thé relief of recovery of money in **C.O.S.No.46/2023** on the File of Hon'ble Commercial District Judge of Coimbatore, so also a minor guardian application in **I.A.No.13/2024** and suit is pending for disposal and the same is posted to 4-7-2025 for your appearance. As such you are hereby informed to appear either in person or through counsel on that date at 10.30 A.M before the said Court, failing which, the Court may pass suitable orders against you in accordance with Law. This is for your kind information.

//As per order of the court//

S.Chandrasekaran, MA,BL,DLL
Advocate,
85/12, Cherran Towers Apartments, Govt.Arts College road, Coimbatore - 641018.
0422-2200337
93631 20899, 77088 18900

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Hitherto Known As Arya Edathuruthykalarickal Radhakrishnan Alias Arya E R D/O Radhakrishnan Edathuruthykalarickal Ramakurup Residing At G-214, Aratt Requizza Apartments, Gollahalli Main Road, Electronic City Phase 1, Electronics City, Po: Electronics City, Dist: Bengaluru, Karnataka-560100, Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Arya Radhakrishnan For All Future Purposes.

I, Hitherto Known As Najeebulla Khan Nissar Rahamath Alias Najeeb Khan N R S/O Nissar Khan Residing At D401, Concorde Tech Turf, Shikaripalaya Main Road, Electronics City Phase 1, Electronics City, Bengaluru Karnataka 560100, Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Najeeb Khan For All Future Purposes.

LOST & FOUND

I, BOB Anugrah Murmu, lost my ICSE 2018 & ISC 2020 CISCE certificates (Index: 6731240). Schools: St. Vincent Pallotti (10th) & St. Joseph's Boys' HS (12th). Lost on BMTC bus. Call 9686314164.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
MINOR IRRIGATION & GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation Division, Hassan
IFT No.11/2025-26, Dated:21.06.2025

Short term tenders are invited from eligible Agencies in two cover system through KPPP portal of GOK (website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) for Hassan District works as per KW-3 maximum tender amount is Rs.80.50 lakhs & minimum tender amount is Rs.2.50 lakhs. The last date of receipt of tender is 30-06-2025 upto 5.00 PM hours. Further detail can be had from KPP-portal and the above office during office working hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation Division, Hassan.

ಖಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಹಿಸನ/ಹಾಸನ/253/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಐ/2025–26

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI-221004

Tender Notice No.BLW/CDE/DL/HVAC/01-25-26 Date : 19.06.2025

E-TENDER

Chief Design Engineer/DL, BLW, Varanasi acting for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Tenders for the following work: **S. No.:-** 1. **Tender No.: BLW-CDE-DL-HVAC-01-25 Name of Work:** Rate contract for Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract (CAMC) of Cab HVAC units for Three Years, fitted on HHP Locomotives, as per BLW Spec. No. WDG4/EL/PS/049 Rev.0. **Approximate cost Rs.** Rs. 553337400.00 (Fifty Five Crore Thirty Three Lakhs Thirty Seven Thousand Four Hundred Rupees only) **Completion period** 36 months **Tender document cost Rs.** 0.00 **Earnest Money Rs. Rs.** 2916700.00 (Twenty Nine Lakh Sixteen Thousand Seven Hundred Rupees only) **Tender Closing date and time for submission** 31/07/2025 Time 15:00 Hrs. **Tender opening date and time** 31/07/2025 Time 15:30 Hrs. For details and to participate in above e-tender visit Indian Railways website **www.ireps.gov.in.**

PRO/BLW/M-10 Chief Design Engineer/DL

/blwvaranasi" Website:- www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in"

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -I BENGALURU
No. 4, Second Floor, LIC Jeevan Mangal Building, Residency Road Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560 025.

DRC NO: 14513 FORM NO. 14 (See Regulation 33 (2))

Central Bank of India
RMV Extension Branch,
2nd Main Road, Kempanna Layout,
D.N.Ramaiah Layout, Sheshadripuram,
Bengaluru-560020.
...Certificate Holder

Versus

Mr. Thousif Ahmed & Another
...Defendants/Certified Debtors

To,

1. Mr. Thousif Ahmed S/o. Sri. Shabeer Ahmed, R/at: No.16, 'Kavitha Nilaya', Chowdeshwari Nagar, Mathikere, Yeshwanthapura, Bengaluru - 560 054.
2. Mr. Shabeer Ahmed S/o. Sri. Idinabba, R/at: No.16, 'Kavitha Nilaya', Chowdeshwari Nagar, Mathikere, Yeshwanthapura, Bengaluru - 560 054. **Place of Business of:** No.4-1, 2nd Floor, Hameed Shah. Compound, Cubbonpet, Bengaluru-560002. **Also Res at:** Flat No.103, Rizim Paradise, Subhash Nagar Road, Pandeshwar, Mangaluru - 575 001.

DEMAND NOTICE

In view of the Recovery Certificate issued in **OA No.1054/2017** passed by the Hon'ble Presiding Officer, DRT, Bengaluru on **20/11/2018** an amount of **Rs. 36,05,217/- (Rupees Thirty Six Lakhs Five Thousand Two Hundred Seventeen Only)** is due against you along with interest and costs from date of filing of O.A.s till realization.

You are hereby called upon to deposit the above sum within 15 days of the receipt of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made as per rules.

In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay:

(a) Such interest as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the execution proceedings.

(b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and other process that may be taken for recovering the amount due.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this **26th day of December 2018.**

Sd/-
(Rajasekharan.R)
Recovery Officer-I, DRT-1: Bengaluru
Email: rajasekharan.r@nic.in

Note: Attention is invited to Rule 16 to the Second Schedule of the Income Tax Act 1961 read with Recovery of Debts and Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 which is reproduced below : "Rule 16(1) where a notice has been served on a defaulter under Rule 2, the defaulter or his representative in interest shall not be competent to mortgage, charge, lease or otherwise deal with any property belonging to him except with the permission of the Debts Recovery Officer, nor shall be any civil court issue any process against such property in execution of a decree for the payment of money.

(2) Where an attachment has been made under this schedule any private transfer or delivery of the property attached or of any Interest therein and any payment to the defaulter of any debt, dividend or other monies contrary to such attachment, shall be void, as against all claims enforceable under the attachment."

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

Office of the Chief Commissioner, Annex Building-1, N.R. Square, Bangalore-560002.

No: BBMP/C.Comm/PSR(G)/630 /2025-26 FORM – III (See Sub-rule (3) of rule-3) Date: 16.06.2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

In exercise of powers conferred under section **14-B of the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act,1961** the following 'Area' mentioned in the schedule below is required by the Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike for **Widening and Formation of Road from Sadaramangala (Hoodi Railway Station) to Medahalli/Bhattarahalli Road via Kurudusonnenahalli as per RMP-2015 for 24.00Mtr Width.**

The following land / building owners have opted for Development Rights in lieu of monetary compensation under the Right to Fair Compensation and transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013. The Development Rights will be given by the Authority as twice the land area surrendered and two times the building area surrendered and as estimated by the value of the building area surrendered (valuated as per PWD norms) divided by the market value of the land on which the building is constructed.

The public is hereby informed about the details of the land and land owners and interested persons whose lands are required for the public purpose and Development Right Certificate (DRCs) are to be issued in lieu of monetary compensation. Any objections and suggestions are to be addressed to the Special Land Acquisition officer, O/o the Deputy Commissioner (Land Acquisition and TDR) Head Office, BBMP within thirty days from the date of publication of this Notification.

List of land / building area surrendered and land owners for which DRC is to be issued.

Name of the District : **Bengaluru Urban** Name of the Taluk **: Bengaluru East** Name of the Village **: Hoodi**

Sy. No / Khatha no.	Type of land: Vacant	Type of land: Built up	Nature of Land: Agriculture Converted Undeveloped Approved layout / developed land Building Site	Dimension of the land / plot and extent in Sq.m: Dimension Extent	Boundaries of the land / plot: East	West	North	South	Building details: Extent in Sq.m	Type of Construction and No. of floors	Floor Area Ratio	Present activity on land/ Building (Specify Specific activity such as shop, office, factory, apartment, Individual house etc.,	Market (guidelines) value of the land per Sq.m	Name and address of the owner of the plot/ land for which DRC is to be issued
Sy No.105/15	Vacant land		Converted Land	728.29	Remaining Portion of Sy No.105/15	Road	Sy No.105/14	Sy No.105/5	None	None	None	Vacant	65,000 /-	Murali H R S/o H M Rajashekar, Residing at: 6th cross, Next to Vivekananda Ashrama, Hoodi, Bangalore -560048.

Note:

- Market guideline value of this property is considered subject to conditions of payment of fee as per Government Order No. NAE 137. MNU 2024 (E), Dated: 09.09.2024 and as per the Circular No. Commissioner/P.S.R/G/1802/2024-25, Dated: 21.09.2024,
- Objections and suggestions made be submitted at the address specified below:

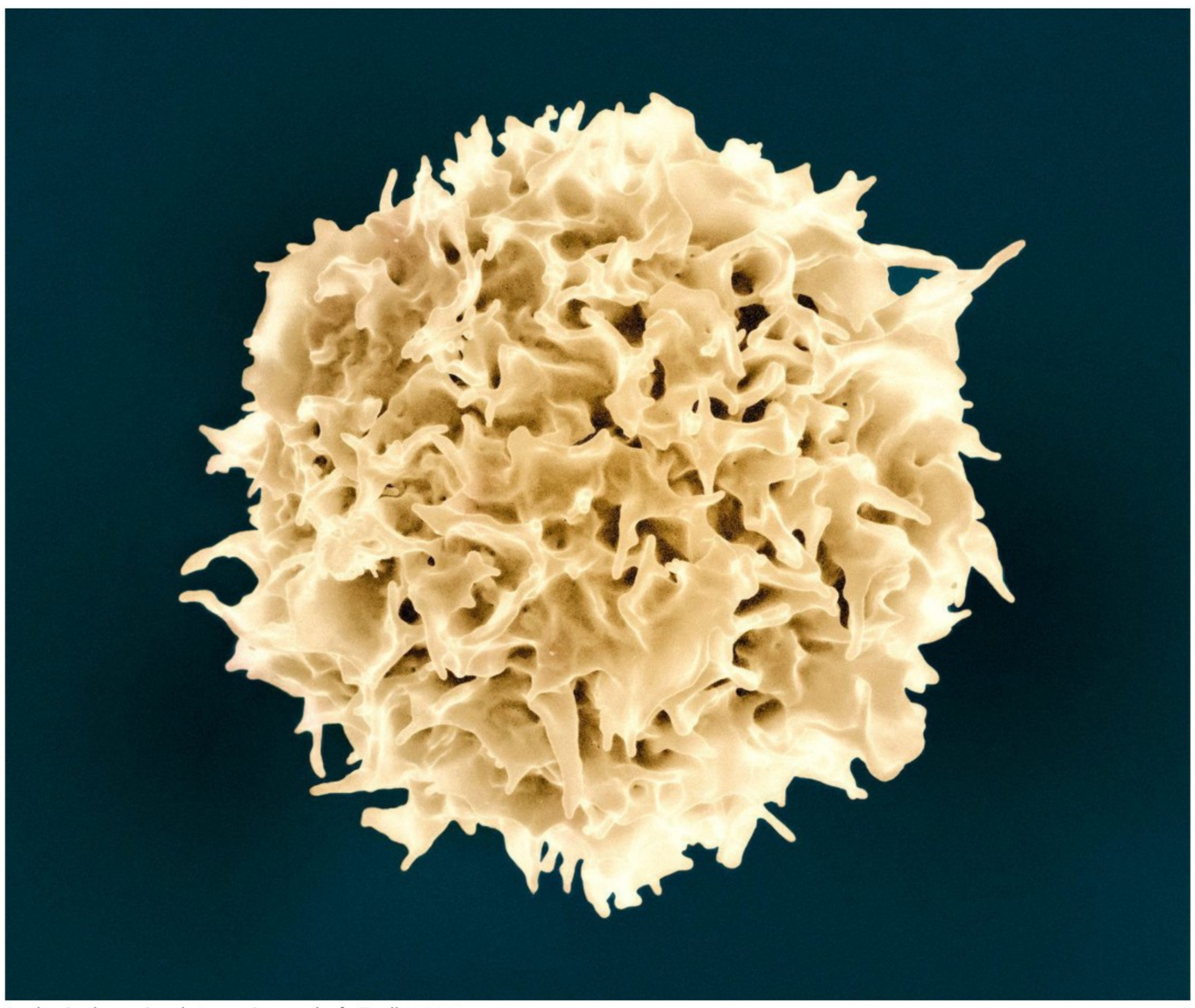
Name and address of the Divisional / Sub divisional / branch office	Deputy Commissioner, Land Acquisition & TDR, 2nd Floor, Room No: 208, Annex Building-3, N.R. Square, BBMP, Bangalore-560002.

Sd/- Chief Commissioner
Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

Technique to make CAR T-cells in vivo could transform cancer care

CAR T-cell therapy retrains immune cells to recognise and destroy rogue targets. T cells often fail to identify cancer cells, so scientists insert genetic instructions that make them express the synthetic molecule, CAR. It gives T cells the ability to detect a specific 'tag' implicated in these cancers

Anirban Mukhopadhyay



A colourised scanning electron micrograph of a T cell. US NIAID

In recent years, chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy has changed outcomes for patients with aggressive blood cancers that no longer respond to standard treatments. In some acute leukaemias, CAR T-cell therapy has led to remissions lasting months or even years. Early-stage trials have explored its use in severe autoimmune diseases like lupus as well, where it may help reset a misfiring immune system.

Originally developed in the early 1990s, the central idea behind CAR T-cell therapy is to retrain the body's own immune cells to recognise and destroy rogue targets. T cells, the patrolling white blood cells, often fail to identify cancer cells. So scientists extract a patient's T cells and insert genetic instructions that make them express the synthetic molecule, CAR. It gives T cells the ability to detect a specific 'tag' – most often CD19, which is found on nearly all B cells – that are the primary culprits in these cancers.

Once these reprogrammed T cells are infused back into the body, they expand, circulate, detect, and eliminate. The process is targeted and potent – but also slow, expensive, and complex. It requires personalised cell harvesting, lab-based genetic engineering using viral vectors, and chemotherapy to prepare the body to receive the modified cells.

Dr. Vishwanath S., a senior consultant in medical oncology, Apollo Hospitals, Bengaluru, estimated from personal practice that CAR T-cell therapy in India typically costs around ₹60-70 lakh. "Roughly ₹30-35 lakh goes toward manufacturing the personalised CAR T-cells through complex *ex vivo* processing," he said. "The rest covers hospitalisation, supportive care, and monitoring for two to three weeks – including side effects, infections, and post-infusion care."

Engineering T-cells inside the body

A study in *Science* on June 19 by researchers from the US National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases, Capstan Therapeutics, and the University of Pennsylvania takes the core idea of CAR T-cell therapy and moves it entirely inside the body.

Instead of extracting T cells and engineering them in a lab, the researchers delivered messenger RNA directly into circulating immune cells using tiny, fat-based molecules known as lipid nanoparticles (LNPs). Commonly used in mRNA vaccines, they help genetic instructions enter target cells. To make sure the message reached the right cells, the researchers added a kind of biological address label: antibodies that bind specifically to CD8+ T cells, the immune system's frontline killers. This targeted formulation, called a CD8-targeted lipid nanoparticle (CD8-tLNP) allowed the instructions to be delivered with precision.

When injected into mice, tLNPs carrying instructions for a CD19-targeting CAR successfully reprogrammed circulating CD8+ T cells, while in cynomolgus monkeys, a CD20-targeting version was used. Within days, B cells were depleted across multiple tissues, and tumours regressed in mice – all without personalised cell processing, viral vectors or chemotherapy. In monkeys, the treatment turned most CD8+ T cells (up to 85%) and nearly all related immune cells (95%) into cancer fighters after the second or third dose, showing strong results.

Bypassing bottlenecks

The key advantage of this platform is that it avoids several of the most restrictive components of current CAR T-cell therapy, and without compromising function.

Since the CAR instructions were delivered using mRNA rather than viruses, the changes to the immune cells were temporary, lowering the risk of permanent genetic side effects. The therapy also worked without lymphodepleting chemotherapy – a preparatory treatment that wipes out a patient's existing immune cells to make space for the modified T cells. This step carries risks of serious secondary infections due to low immunoglobulin levels, necessitating prolonged and recurrent hospital admissions. And because the entire process took place inside the body, there was no need for custom lab-based cell manufacturing. Dr. Vishwanath noted that the ability to bypass both complex *in vitro* manufacturing and chemotherapy-based lymphodepletion could make CAR T-cell therapies safer and more accessible for frail, elderly, and comorbid patients.

The researchers also introduced a newly developed component, Lipid 829, a biodegradable carrier designed for improved tolerability. It showed faster clearance from the liver and lower inflammatory markers than earlier nanoparticle formulations while still delivering the CAR instructions effectively to T cells.

Signs of an immune reset

Beyond cancer, the study also explored whether the same platform could target B cells in autoimmune settings, where they mistakenly attack the body's own cells.

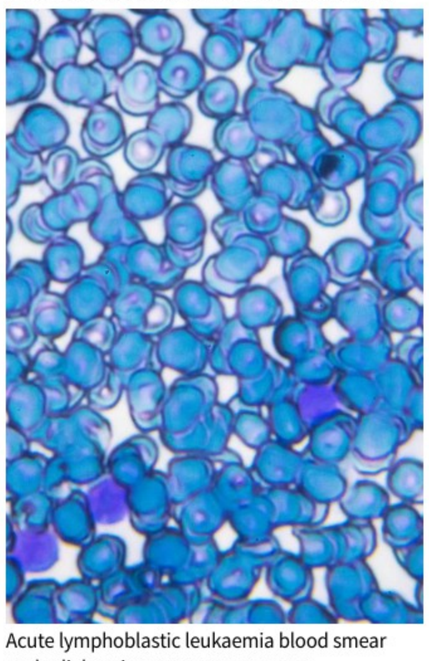
In monkeys, the treatment led to near-complete depletion of circulating and tissue-resident B cells, including in the spleen, lymph nodes, and bone marrow. Over the following weeks, fresh B cells gradually returned – and when they did, they were mostly naïve, like new recruits with no memory of having turned against their own body. This mirrored observations from human trials of conventional CAR T-cell therapy in lupus, where long-term remission has been linked to repopulation by naïve B cells.

The researchers also tested the platform on blood samples from patients with lupus and myositis. In laboratory assays, CD8-tLNPs successfully reprogrammed the patients' own T cells, which then eliminated their B cells *in vitro*.

While these findings remain preclinical, they reinforce that transient CAR expression might offer a way to reset the immune system without long-term immunosuppression.

What the safety data say

The risks associated with conventional CAR T-cell therapy include cytokine release syndrome (CRS), neurological complications, and, in some cases, long-term effects from random integration of viral vectors in the patient's genome.



Acute lymphoblastic leukaemia blood smear under light microscopy. GETTY IMAGES

A patient who received CAR T-cell therapy for primary mediastinal B-cell lymphoma at Tata Memorial Centre in June 2024 said it was her fourth line of treatment after three earlier regimens had failed.

"It finally put my cancer into remission," she said. "But recovery hasn't been simple. I stayed 27 days in the hospital because of sepsis. I've had pneumonia and still get secondary infections due to low immunoglobulin levels. Another friend is facing something similar. One of the others who had the treatment with us – she had leukaemia – passed away recently, possibly from the same. I'm better; cancer free, but I wouldn't say I have been able to get back to how life was before my diagnosis."

She does however call herself an outlier and that others have had easier recoveries.

The new study aimed to minimise some of these risks by using non-integrating mRNA and the new lipid nanoparticle.

In monkeys, the treatment was mostly safe. Inflammation markers rose slightly after infusion but normalised with standard premedication of antihistamines and corticosteroids. Liver side effects, a concern with nanoparticles, were minimal with Lipid 829.

However, one monkey developed a serious immune overreaction resembling hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis – a known CAR T-cell therapy risk – after the last infusion and had to be euthanised. While this was a single case, it underscored the importance of careful dosing and clinical monitoring.

Dosing like a drug

In monkeys, two or three intravenous infusions, spaced 72 hours apart, were enough to induce CAR expression in circulating CD8+ T cells and achieve near-complete depletion of B cells across multiple tissues.

Because the formulation was standardised, not patient-specific, and required only intravenous dosing, the procedure resembled a biologic drug infusion more than a cell therapy protocol. In principle, this delivery model could reduce the need for specialised infrastructure.

The platform represents one of the most developed *in vivo* CAR T-cell systems tested to date. It showed functional results in mice and non-human primates, used a defined dosing regimen, and included safety modifications such as enhanced CD8 targeting and premedication.

Dr. Vishwanath said, "Robust human trials will be essential to confirm safety, efficacy, and long-term outcomes". How the body will react to the engineered T cells and repeat dosing remain open questions as well.

The key advantage of this platform is that it avoids the most restrictive components of current CAR T-cell therapy. Since CAR instructions were delivered using mRNA rather than viruses, changes to immune cells were temporary, lowering the risk of genetic side effects

"Reproducibility will be another major issue," Pankaj Prasad, who has worked extensively in cell and gene therapy in India and Singapore, cautioned. "When pilot experiments are performed in the R&D lab by humans and when they are reproduced by automated machines, there is always variability. The small-scale results do not match with the automated machine-generated results and usually require another loop of standardisation."

The study lays the technical groundwork for translation, but the safety, efficacy, and scalability of this approach in humans remain to be established. If future trials succeed, it could expand the scope of CAR T-cell therapy beyond what current platforms allow.

Matters for India

India faces a high burden of B cell-driven cancers. Regional cancer registries show that diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL) – one of the most aggressive types – makes up 34-60% of non-Hodgkin lymphoma cases, followed by follicular lymphoma. Acute lymphoblastic leukaemia is the most common cancer in Indian children accounting for 75% of all cases. All of these conditions are candidates for conventional CAR T-cell therapy.

India's burden of autoimmune disorders is also rising, with one study suggesting a 30% increase in prevalence since the COVID-19 pandemic.

The approach described in the new study avoids many of the constraints that have limited the therapy's use in India. If proven safe and effective in humans, it could be ideal for settings where specialised infrastructure is limited and patient volume is high. Furthermore, a simplified, infusion-based platform like this could make advanced immunotherapy more widely feasible, especially in places where few cell therapy units and trained specialists limit access.

If it passes all the quality checks, this platform could shift not just how we deliver CAR T-cell therapy but also who can benefit from it.

(Anirban Mukhopadhyay is a geneticist by training and science communicator from Delhi. anir.deskspace@gmail.com)

Leaves covered with dust from a stone crusher near Khatoli Ahir village in Haryana's Mahendra Garh District. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

Crushed stone is being spread across farms to capture carbon

Agence France Presse

From sugar plantations in Brazil to tea estates in India, crushed rock is being sprinkled across large stretches of farmland globally in a novel bid to combat climate change. The technique is called enhanced rock weathering (ERW) and aims to speed up the natural capture and storage of carbon dioxide.

It is potentially big business with tech giants, airlines, and fast fashion firms lining up to buy carbon credits from ERW projects to offset their own emissions.

ERW aims to turbocharge a natural geological process called weathering.

Weathering is the breakdown of rocks by carbonic acid, which forms when carbon dioxide in the air or soil dissolves into water.

Weathering occurs naturally when rain falls on rocks, and the process can lock away carbon dioxide from the air or soil as bicarbonate, and eventually limestone.

ERW speeds the process up by using quick-weathering rocks like basalt that are ground finely to increase their surface area.

It is still a fairly new technology and there are questions about how much carbon it can remove. One US study found applying 50 tonnes of basalt to a hectare of land each year could remove up to 10.5 tonnes of carbon dioxide per hectare over a four-year period.

But scientists applying basalt to oil palm fields in Malaysia and sugarcane fields in Australia measured much lower removal rates.

Weathering occurs when rain falls on rocks, and it can lock away carbon dioxide from the air or soil as bicarbonate

"Field trials are showing that there have been overestimates of the amount and rate captured," said Paul Nelson, a soil scientist at James Cook University who has studied ERW. Rates depend on variables including rock type and size, how wet and hot the climate is, soil type, and land management.

Measuring the carbon captured is also difficult. The most popular technique measures cations, positively charged ions that are released from the rock during weathering. But those cations are produced regardless of which acid the rock has reacted with.

"If there are stronger acids than carbonic, then it will react with those," said Nelson, so measurable cations are produced even when carbon dioxide is not captured.

That doesn't mean ERW is pointless, said Wolfram Buss, a researcher on carbon dioxide removal at the Australian National University; just that it needs to be carefully calibrated and measured.

The added rock increases soil alkalinity, which can boost crop growth, soil nutrients and soil formation.

Experts note that even if the rock reacts with other acids in the soil, failing to lock away carbon dioxide at that stage, it can still have planetary benefits.

That is because acids in the soil would otherwise eventually wash into rivers and the sea, where acidification leads to the release of carbon dioxide.

If the rock neutralises that acid in the soil, "you've prevented carbon dioxide being released from the water into the atmosphere downstream," said Nelson.

The scale of those possible "prevented" emissions is not yet clear, however. ERW is broadly considered safe since it merely speeds up an existing natural process. But some quick-weathering rocks have high levels of potentially poisonous heavy metals. Scattering finely ground rock also requires appropriate protective gear for those involved.

For feedback and suggestions
for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

Three more held for sexual assault of beautician

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Accused who work for a private firm as daily wage employees on contract were on the run after incident

The Bannerghatta police on Tuesday arrested three more persons who, along with two others, allegedly sexually harassed a 26-year-old beautician and assaulted her when she resisted their overtures at Mylasandra on Sunday.

The accused have been identified as Punith Kaade, Anush Madan, and Arun, who were on the run soon after the incident. The accused work for a private firm as daily wage employees on contract.

The police arrested the prime accused, John Richard, 24, and his father Kanikya Swamy, 54, who created a ruckus and threatened the victim with dire consequences after his son was beaten up by the victim's friend and later arrested.

The victim was walking to a nearby shop around 5 p.m. in Prabhakar Reddy Layout near Mylasandra, when Richard, in a drunken state, confronted her and passed lewd comments soliciting sexual favours.

Caught on camera

The accused also stalked her and touched her inappropriately, following which she resisted. Enraged, the accused allegedly assaulted her publicly. The entire incident was caught on a nearby CCTV camera.

The accused was soon joined by his friends who started harassing her. The victim ran towards her house and called her male friend, a gym trainer. The accused followed her and started harassing her at the gate.

By then the male friend arrived and he along with the neighbours chased them. They caught hold of Richard and thrashed him. Richard was later admitted to the hospital and the victim had called the police by then. Kanikya Swamy, a businessman, rushed to the victim's house, created a ruckus, and threatened her.

Based on the complaint, the police arrested the father-son duo while Richard's friends who had escaped soon after the incident were tracked and arrested on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, Richard's mother, Mary Pushpa, has now filed a counter-complaint. She claims her son was beaten by the gym trainer during the scuffle. The police have taken up the counter-complaint for further investigation.

The victim claimed that the police initially did not register an FIR on Sunday despite her complaint. The police claimed that both parties had come to the station and agreed to return the next day. On Monday, she approached the police again after allegedly receiving fresh threats from John's parents and filed a complaint.

HDK bats for tunnel roads, seeks Central assistance

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Tunnels roads, a project championed by Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D. K. Shivakumar and which has been facing stiff opposition from several quarters, has received unexpected support.

Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel H.D. Kumaraswamy, in a letter to Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari, termed the project the "backbone of Bengaluru's future transport infrastructure, addressing current bottlenecks, improving connectivity, and enabling long-term sustainable growth", and sought Union government assistance for the same.

Cabinet approval

The State Cabinet recently approved ₹17,780 crore for the project from Hebbal to Silk Board.

> The tunnel road project is the backbone of the city's future transport infrastructure, addressing current bottlenecks, improving connectivity, and enabling long-term sustainable growth
>
> **H.D. KUMARASWAMY,** Union Minister

Bengaluru Smart Infrastructure Limited is all set to call global tenders for the project. Mr. Kumaraswamy also urged the Centre to support the Peripheral Ring Road (PRR) project to decongest Bengaluru's core areas.

Muslim auto driver alleges assault for refusing to chant *Jai Sri Ram*

While the police say the victim had not mentioned anything about the slogan to them, he says not only did the assault happen after he refused to say the slogan, but that he had also mentioned it to the police in his statement

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 35-year-old Muslim autorickshaw driver was allegedly assaulted by a group of eight men after he refused to chant *Jai Sri Ram* at Hegde Nagar on Sunday. However, the police, who have registered a case of assault in connection with the case, have been accused of trying to underplay the communal nature of the incident.

Waseem

While the Sampigehalli police claimed that the victim had not mentioned anything about the slogan to them, the victim, Mr. Waseem, told *The Hindu* that not only did the assault happen after he refused to say *Jai Sri Ram*, but also that he had told this to the police in his statement. Mr. Waseem was driving his autorickshaw along with his friend Sameer, a mechanic, on Sunday. The duo stopped at a vacant site at Hegde Nagar to relieve themselves. The accused who were sitting and drinking nearby confronted them and asked their identity and why they stopped.

"While I was trying to reason with them, they realised I was a Muslim and started attacking me. They asked me to chant *Jai Sri Ram*, to which I refused. They got furious and started to punch and kick me," Mr. Waseem said.

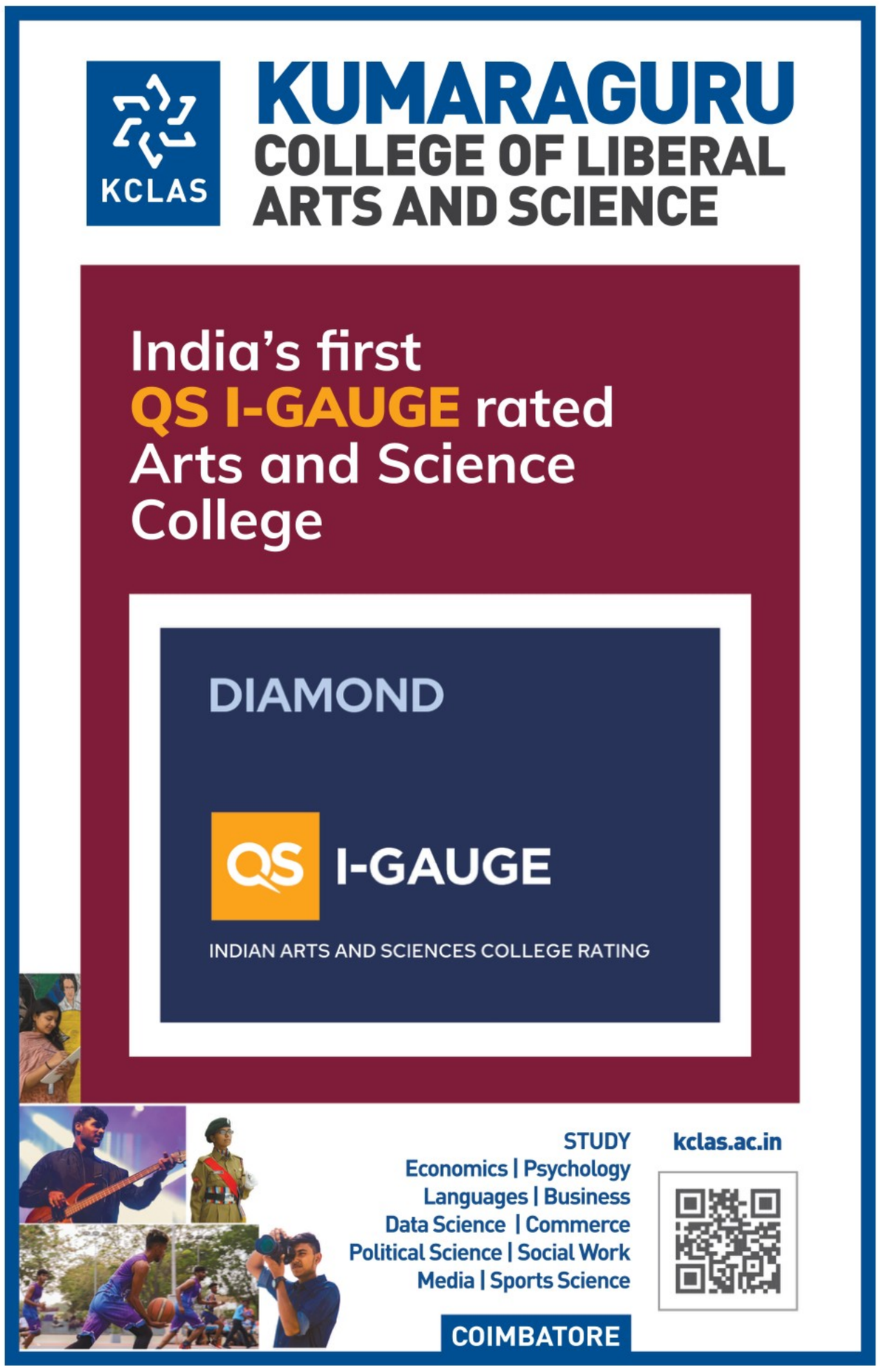
Sensing trouble, Sameer fled the scene.

After reaching home, Mr. Waseem narrated his ordeal to his family members and on their advice, approached the police.

The police sent Mr. Waseem to Yelahanka General Hospital for medical examination, before taking up a case of assault. The Sampigehalli police have registered a case for intentional insult with intent to provoke breach of the peace, criminal intimidation, assault and wrongful restraint, with no mention of the communal undertones to the assault.

Zia Nomani, an activist associated with the Law and Policy Research Institute who helped Mr. Waseem file the complaint, said despite the complainant telling them that he was assaulted for not raising the slogan and was abused using religious slurs, the police were trying to dilute the case by not bringing on record the communal nature of the assault.

जागरूक शिक्षा और जागरूकता निधि
दीया फंड
DEPOSITOR EDUCATION AND AWARENESS FUND
For resolution of your complaints against RBI Regulated Entities (RE)* follow these steps
1
Lodge your complaint first with the RE
2
Get acknowledgement/ reference number
3
If no resolution is received from the RE in 30 days or you are not satisfied with it, you may file your complaint with the RBI Ombudsman on RBI's CMS portal (cms.rbi.org.in) or by post to CRPC**
RBI Kehta Hai...
Jaankaar Baniye, Satark Rahiye!
Filing complaints directly with the RBI Ombudsman may lead to rejection.
For more details, visit https://rbikehtahai.rbi.org.in/ios
For feedback, write to rbikehtahai@rbi.org.in
*Banks, Non-Banking Finance Companies, Payment System Participants, Prepaid Instruments, Credit Information Companies **CRPC: Reserve Bank of India, Sector 17, Chandigarh-160017.
Issued in public interest by
भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक
RESERVE BANK OF INDIA
www.rbi.org.in



Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRP Act).
ISSN 0971 - 751X

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

The increase in area burned by forest fires in Brazil in 2024

62 In per cent. Brazil experienced historic fires last year, particularly in the Amazon, the largest tropical rainforest on the planet that is key to absorbing greenhouse gases. The fires razed 30 million hectares last year, a 62% jump compared to the 18.5 million hectares burned on average. AFP

People who have been arrested in Turkey due to links to Erdogan foe

158 Turkish police on Tuesday arrested more than a hundred members of the military suspected of links to Fethullah Gulen, who was accused of masterminding a failed 2016 coup, the public prosecutor's office in Istanbul said. Authorities have detained close to 26,000 people. AFP

The Netherlands' latest military aid package to Ukraine

175 In million euros. The Netherlands will provide Ukraine with 100 drone-detection radars and 20 medical evacuation vehicles as part of a new aid package, the Dutch Defence Minister said. The nation has pledged about 10 billion euros for Ukraine since early 2022. AFP

Number of persons arrested in Indonesia in drug crackdown

285 The head of the National Narcotic Agency, Marthinus Hukom, said the crackdown, launched between April and June across 20 provinces, also uncovered money laundering schemes by two drug syndicates and confiscated assets worth more than 26 billion rupiah. AP

Number of Indians evacuated from Iran and Israel

3,170 India evacuated over 1,100 citizens from Iran and Israel amid ongoing tensions between the two countries. It brought back 594 Indians from Israel, using C-17 heavy-lift aircraft of the Indian Air Force. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

Follow us facebook.com/thehindu twitter.com/the_hindu instagram.com/the_hindu

U.S.'s heavy duty attack on Iran's nuke sites

Apart from the B-2s and the bunker busters, were other weapons used in the recent military strike by the U.S. against Iran? Why are the B-2s maintenance intensive? Why were the Massive Ordnance Penetrator (MOP) 'bunker buster' bombs needed? Is the U.S. already manufacturing new stealth bombers?

EXPLAINER

Dinakar Peri

The story so far:

On June 21, U.S. President Donald Trump announced that the U.S. military carried out precision strikes on three key Iranian nuclear facilities, mainly Fordow, Natanz and Isfahan. He further stated that the strikes were a "spectacular" military success and that Iran's key nuclear enrichment facilities have been "completely and totally obliterated". The key part of these strikes were conducted by the B-2 Spirit stealth bombers which dropped GBU-57 bunker busters to penetrate the Fordow enrichment facility located deep inside a mountain, that was beyond the capability of Israel. Later on Sunday, U.S. Secretary of Defence Pete Hegseth and Gen. Dan Caine, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff detailed the strikes carried out by the U.S. Central Command (Centcom) under 'Operation Midnight Hammer'.

How were the strikes carried out?

After proceeding quietly and with minimal communication for 18 hours from the U.S. to the target area, the first of the seven B-2 Spirit stealth bombers dropped two 30,000 lb GBU-57 Massive Ordnance Penetrator (MOP) 'bunker buster' bombs at the Fordow site at approximately 6:40 p.m. EDT, Gen. Caine told media houses. The initial mission package also included several decoy aircraft that flew west over the Pacific Ocean as "a deception effort known only to an extremely small number of planners and key leaders here in Washington," he stated.

"The U.S. employed several deception tactics – including decoys – as the fourth and fifth generation aircraft pushed out in front of the strike package at high altitude and high speed, sweeping in front of the package for enemy fighters and surface-to-air missile threats", according to Gen. Caine. "Following the initial strike on Fordow, the remaining B-2s went on to deploy their ordnance, eventually totalling 14 MOPs hitting the targeted areas," he said noting that this was the first operational use of the GBU-57 MOP.

In addition to the MOPs, a U.S. submarine launched more than two dozen Tomahawk land attack cruise missiles at key infrastructure targets at the Isfahan site, bringing the overall total of precision-guided weapons employed during the operation to approximately 75. "Initial battle damage assessments indicate that all three sites sustained extremely severe damage and destruction," Gen. Caine stated, although later in the day several U.S. officials expressed doubts on the extent of damage to the Fordow facility.

What is a B-2 stealth bomber?

The U.S. Air Force (USAF) operates the country's bomber fleet which consists of 114 B-1 Lancers, 21 B-2 Spirit and 137 legacy B-52 aircraft. Of these, B-2 is the only fully stealth aircraft while the B-1 has some stealth features. Each B-2 costs over $2 billion, the most expensive aircraft ever, and so only 21 aircraft were built. One B-2 crashed in 2008 while another was damaged in 2022, and with the repair work deemed prohibitive, it is set to be retired soon. This leaves only 19 B-2 aircraft in active inventory.

The B-2 has always inspired awe with its bat-like shape, and has been extensively showcased by Hollywood. It is a dual-capable multi-role heavy bomber, powered by four engines. According to the USAF, the B-2's low observability is derived from a combination of reduced infrared, acoustic, electromagnetic, visual and radar signatures. "These signatures make it difficult for sophisticated defensive systems to detect, track and engage the B-2," the USAF states. The B-2 made its first flight in 1989 and began operations in 1997. With a crew of two, it can carry a payload of 40,000 lb, has an un-refuelled range of 6,000 miles and a service ceiling of 50,000 feet. It is 69 feet long, 17 feet high and has a wingspan of 172 feet, half the length of a football field.

For Sunday's mission, the B-2s flew 37-hours non-stop, from their home base to the target location and back, re-fuelling several times mid-air, making it the second longest mission ever. The B-2s hold the record for the longest air combat mission in history. As per its manufacturer Northrop Grumman, in 2001, six B-2s were the first to enter Afghan airspace for a record setting 44-hour mission. According to an article in the *New York Post*, the B-2 pilots "have their cockpits outfitted with mini refrigerators and a microwave oven to keep their crew fed and alert" and also have a toilet and enough space for one person to lay down and rest.

A March 2025 report of the U.S. Congressional Research Service (CRS) states that the USAF continues to modernise the B-2. Northrop Grumman was awarded a contract in 2024 of up to $7 billion to maintain and improve B-2 stealth and communications capabilities, engines, and displays through 2029.

The B-2s are extremely maintenance intensive. According to a detailed account in *The Atlantic* on the B-2s employed in Libya in 2018, 100 hours of maintenance were required for every hour of flight. This is mainly because the advantage of stealth is B-2's edge, and it is achieved by design and radar-absorbing materials. To maintain them, the aircraft needs temperature controlled hangers to protect against changes in temperature, humidity, and dust.

Why was there a need for 'bunker-busters'?

The nuclear fuel enrichment site at Fordow is located 60 miles south of Iran's capital Tehran in the mountainous region close to the city of Qom. The facilities are buried deep underground, estimated to be 80-90m deep, to withstand Israeli airstrikes. Iran acknowledged its existence only in 2009. That's why there was a need for the GBU-57 MOP and the B-2 Spirit that can carry it. It also meant that the U.S. had to officially enter the Israel-Iran conflict which began on June 13, when Israel started bombing Iranian nuclear and military facilities.

The GBU-57 MOP, according to the USAF is a weapon system designed "to accomplish a difficult, complicated mission of reaching and destroying our adversaries' weapons of mass destruction located in well protected facilities." It is more powerful than its predecessor, the BLU-109 and the GBU-28. According to USAF, a total of 20 MOPs were contracted. The B-2 Spirit is the only aircraft in the USAF capable of employing the 20.5 ft, 30,000 lb MOP which is guided by GPS to reach and destroy targets. Given the weight, each B-2 can hold two MOP bombs.

According to a 2012 CRS report, the GB-57 has a penetration capability of up to 200 feet underground before exploding. "By some reports, it was expected to penetrate as much as 200 feet through 5,000 psi reinforced concrete, and 25 feet into 10,000 psi reinforced concrete," it states. The *New York Times* quoted a senior U.S. official who stated that the strike on the Fordow site did not destroy the heavily fortified facility but has severely damaged it, taking it "off the table." The person noted that even 12 bunker-busting bombs could not destroy the site.

What next?

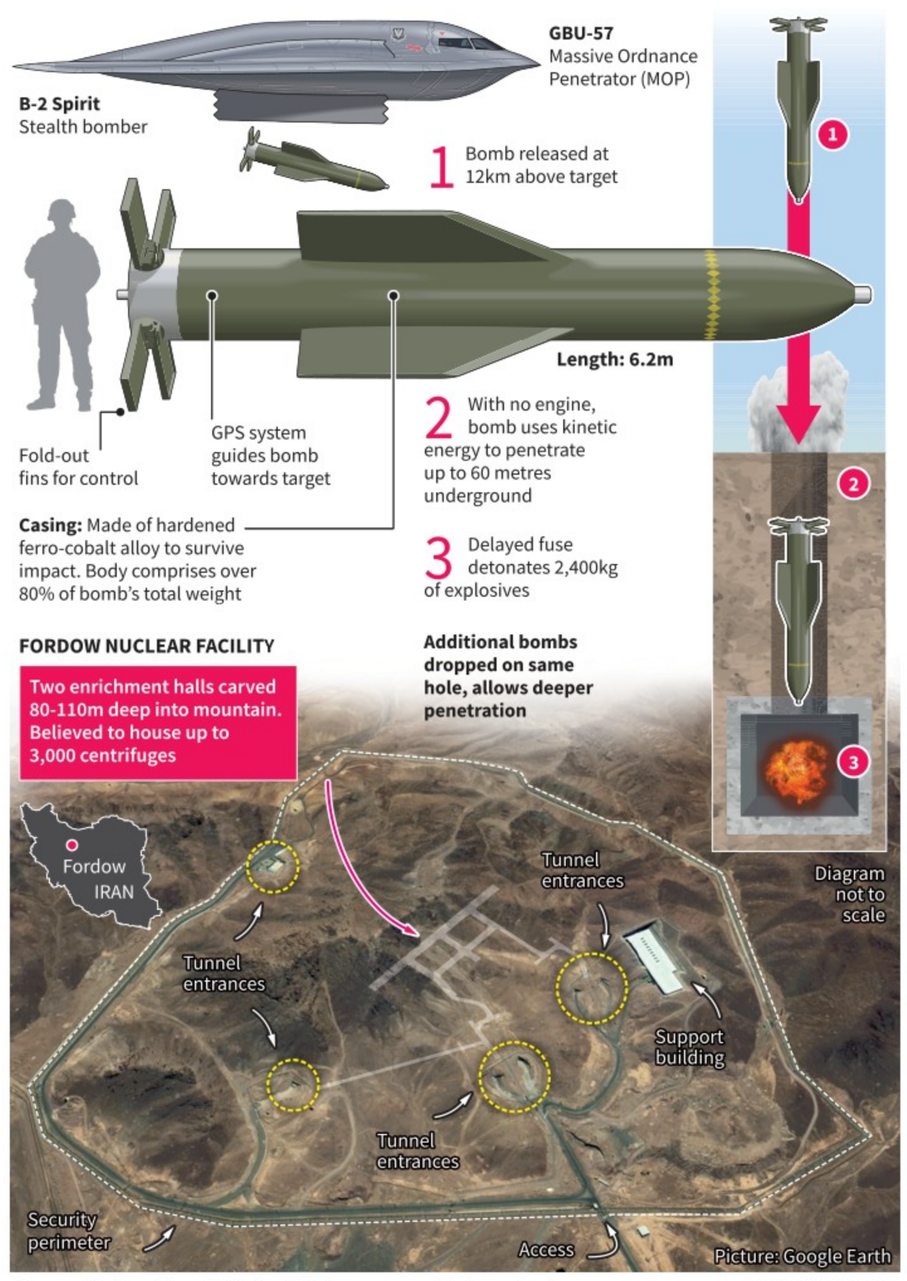
This mission was not, and has not been, about regime change, Mr. Hegseth said. "The president authorised a precision operation to neutralise the threats to our national interests posed by the Iranian nuclear program and [in support of] the collective self-defense of our troops and our ally, Israel." However, it is unclear whether the objectives of fully neutralising the nuclear enrichment facilities of Iran has been accomplished. Moreover, the whereabouts of the enriched uranium are unknown, as per U.S. officials.

A next generation bomber, the B-21 Raider, a dual-capable penetrating-strike stealth bomber, is currently under development. The B-21 is similar to the B-2, but slightly smaller, with a distinctive beak domed centre. According to a USAF fact sheet, the B-21 has been designed with an open systems architecture to allow for faster new software integration. With a plan to make them enter service in the next few years, the USAF is looking at acquiring a minimum of 100 aircraft at an average unit procurement cost of $550 million.

Sleek design: A B-2 stealth bomber flies over the Washington Monument, on July 4, 2020. AFP

High intensity weapons

The nuclear fuel enrichment site at Fordow is located 60 miles south of Iran's capital Tehran in the mountainous region close to the city of Qom. The facilities are buried deep underground, estimated to be 80-90m deep, to withstand Israeli airstrikes. That's why there was a need for the GBU-57 MOP and the B-2 Spirit that can carry it


B-2 Spirit
Stealth bomber
GBU-57
Massive Ordnance Penetrator (MOP)
1 Bomb released at 12km above target
Length: 6.2m
Fold-out fins for control
GPS system guides bomb towards target
Casing: Made of hardened ferro-cobalt alloy to survive impact. Body comprises over 80% of bomb's total weight
2 With no engine, bomb uses kinetic energy to penetrate up to 60 metres underground
3 Delayed fuse detonates 2,400kg of explosives
FORDOW NUCLEAR FACILITY
Two enrichment halls carved 80-110m deep into mountain. Believed to house up to 3,000 centrifuges
Additional bombs dropped on same hole, allows deeper penetration
Fordow
IRAN
Tunnel entrances
Tunnel entrances
Tunnel entrances
Support building
Security perimeter
Access
Diagram not to scale
Picture: Google Earth

Sources: Nuclear Threat Initiative, U.S. Department of Defense, Boeing © GRAPHIC NEWS

THE GIST

After proceeding quietly and with minimal communication for 18 hours from the U.S. to the target area, the first of the seven B-2 Spirit stealth bombers dropped two 30,000 lb GBU-57 Massive Ordnance Penetrator (MOP) 'bunker buster' bombs at the Fordow site at approximately 6:40 p.m. EDT, Gen. Caine told media houses.

The GBU-57 MOP, according to the USAF is a weapon system designed "to accomplish a difficult, complicated mission of reaching and destroying our adversaries' weapons of mass destruction located in well protected facilities."

This mission was not, and has not been, about regime change, Mr. Hegseth said.

Techie injured after tree branch falls on him; second such incident in city in 10 days

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 25-year-old software engineer was critically injured after a roadside tree branch fell on him near K. R. Circle close to PWD Office on Nrupatunga Road on Monday.

This is the second such case in the last 10 days in the city.

Mayur Kumar, a resident of Nagavara, was on his way to work on a scooter when the branch fell on him. He sustained head injuries and fell unconscious.

A traffic policeman on duty rushed to his help and shifted him to St. Martha's Hospital, where the doctors after a CT scan, advised surgery and the youth is presently being treated in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU).

Anuradha H. M., mother of the victim, in her complaint to the Halasuru Gate police on Monday, stated that Mayur was critically wounded and the doctor said that the cost of the treatment was estimated to be ₹15 lakh.

BBMP officials booked

She alleged that the BBMP forest cell officials' negligence and failure to maintain roadside trees led to the accident. Based on her complaint, the police registered an FIR against BBMP officials charging them under Section 125(b) (endangering life or personal safety), of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023.

Earlier on June 15, Sundar Akshay Shivaram, a 29-year-old HR executive, had suffered severe injuries to his skull and brain after a tree branch fell on him while he was riding his scooter in Srinivasa Nagar and succumbed to injuries on June 19. Based on the complaint filed by his parents, the Hanumanth Nagar police registered an FIR against the Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCF) and the Assistant Conservator of Forests (ACF) of the BBMP forest cell charging them under Section 105 (culpable homicide not amounting to murder) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023.

ED files charge sheet against Aishwarya Gowda under PMLA

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Directorate of Enforcement (ED) recently fileda charge sheet against Aishwarya Gowda and 17 other accused under PMLA, 2002, before Special (PMLA) Court on Monday.

Previously, the ED had provisionally attached properties worth ₹3.98 crore after a probe found her involvement in money laundering.

The ED began its probe into the case in March earlier this year based on multiple FIRs for cheating registered by the State police against Ms. Gowda, her husband Harish K.N., and others. The allegation in the FIRs is that Ms. Gowda, her husband and others entered into a criminal conspiracy to defraud and cheat several individuals by taking gold, cash, and funds from them promising a high rate of return. However, the accused neither returned the money nor gave the promised returns and also threatened the investors of dire consequences in case of further pursuance of the matter by claiming her proximity to various high-profile politicians, the ED said. The ED also conducted search operations at various locations related to Ms. Gowda and her accomplices under the provisions of PMLA, 2002.

PG owner arrested on charge of raping girl

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Mico Layout police on Tuesday arrested the 35-year-old owner of a paying guest (PG) facility for allegedly raping a 21-year-old resident, after she confessed to stealing three rings from another girl in the PG. The accused, Ravi Teja Reddy, has been booked for rape and arrested. The victim, a nursing graduate and a native of Andhra Pradesh, had joined the PG facility run by Reddy a week ago.

According to the police, the victim had reportedly stolen three gold rings from another PG resident and even disconnected the CCTV camera wire. Suspicious, Reddy summoned her for questioning.The victim reportedly requested him to let her go and not to hand her over to the police. Taking advantage of this, Reddy allegedly raped her.

Street vendors stage protest decrying statement of DKS

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Over 500 street vendors from across Bengaluru held a day-long protest at Freedom Park on Tuesday, decrying the recent statement by Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar that henceforth only those street vendors identified by the survey will be allowed to hawk in the city, that too only in push carts.

The street vendors were unable to meet Chief Civic Commissioner M. Maheshwar Rao on Tuesday despite being promised a meeting at 3 p.m.

The Karnataka Progressive Street Vendors' Association, which organised the protest has warned of intensifying the protest unless the DCM withdraws his statement and BBMP announces a no-eviction policy.

S. Babu, president of the Association and a street vendor from Vijayanagar market, said that the survey had registered only 27,000 street vendors, when the civic body has given loans under the PM SVAnidhi scheme to over 70,000 street vendors in the city.

Street vendors and members of the Karnataka Pragathipara Beedhi Vyapara Sangha staging a protest at Freedom Park in Bengaluru on Tuesday. K. MURALI KUMAR

'Deliberate'

"The survey has deliberately kept out vendors to show lesser numbers. Now the government cannot turn around and say only these 27,000 vendors will be allowed to hawk. Moreover, Mr. Shivakumar wants to evict these registered vendors as well, giving them electric push carts, asking them not to occupy any permanent spots," he said, arguing that this was a clear violation of the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act 2014," said.

Lokayukta raids eight government officials, unearths assets worth ₹34.9 crore

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka Lokayukta conducted search operations across 45 locations in the State in connection with the complaints regarding disproportionate assets against 8 government officers on Tuesday.

Assets worth ₹34.9 crore were unearthed during the raids.

During the raids, the sleuths seized assets worth ₹5.7 crore from places associated with Prakash K. S., executive engineer, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagar Palike, assets worth ₹3.85 crore were discovered during raids on K. G. Amaranath, chief officer, Municipality, Anekal, Bengaluru Rural, assets worth ₹6.32 crore were discovered during raids on Mallikarjuna Allipur, executive engineer, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, Kalaburagi, assets worth ₹2.18 crore were discovered during raids on Ramachandra Masarakal, PDO, Sannuru Grama Panchayath, Kalaburagi, assets worth ₹6.11 crore were discovered during raids on Ashok Lakshmappa Vasanad, chief engineer, Karnataka Neeravari Nigam Ltd, Malaprabha Project Zone, Dharwad.

Further during the raids, assets worth ₹2.89 crore were discovered during raids on Lathamani D.B., account superintendent, Municipal City Office, Chikkamagaluru, assets worth ₹1.48 crore were discovered during raids on D.B. Patil, Police Inspector, Gadag Town police station and assets worth ₹6.34 crore were discovered during searches conducted on Pradeep, professor co-ordinator, ADR, KSAHU, Shivamogga.

Timings
BENGALURU

WEDNESDAY, JUN. 25	
RISE 05:56	SET 18:49
RISE 05:28	SET 18:58
THURSDAY, JUN. 26	
RISE 05:56	SET 18:49
RISE 06:33	SET 19:58
FRIDAY, JUN. 27	
RISE 05:56	SET 18:49
RISE 07:37	SET 20:51

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	32	25
Mysuru	28	21
Bengaluru	27	21

Bengaluru Today
29°C The weather will be dry. Day will be slight warm. Night will be pleasant.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
28°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be comfortable. Spell of light to moderate rain and thundershower may occur.

© Copyright Skymet Weather 2025
All rights reserved.

THE HINDU
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

City doctors come together to create awareness about HPV-associated cancers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

City-based oncologists and paediatricians came together on a common platform on Tuesday to discuss the public health implications of Human Papillomavirus (HPV).

The doctors, who participated in 'Conquer HPV and Cancer Conclave 2025' in Bengaluru, emphasised that HPV is not limited to cervical cancer. It is also associated with cancers of the vulva, vagina, anus, penis, and oropharynx, affecting both men and women.

The speakers highlighted the pressing need for awareness, the importance of reaching both adolescents and parents, and the role of healthcare providers in guiding preventive care. With peak HPV infection occurring between ages 15 to 25, early awareness and timely preventive action are essential.

With an affordable HPV vaccine now available, it has become easier to protect every individual from HPV associated cancers, the doctors said.

Moderated by Bhaskar Shenoy, head of Pediatrics and Pediatric Infectious Diseases Division at Manipal Hospitals, the conclave was held as part of a nationwide public health initiative led by the Serum Institute of India (SII).

India continues to face a significant burden of HPV-related diseases, particularly cervical cancer, which remains the second most common cancer among women in the country.

According to the Catalan Institute of Oncology (ICO) and the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) Information Centre on HPV and Cancer (2023), India reports over 1.23 lakh new cervical cancer cases and more than 77,000 related deaths annually.

Apart from this, up to 90% of anal cancers and 63% of penile cancers are associated with HPV.

The initiative will continue in cities across the country in the coming months, creating platforms for credible voices in healthcare to educate and empower the public, the organisers said.

ಕರಾಸಕೈಲನಿನಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸಣ್ಣ ಕೈಗಾರಿಕೆಗಳ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಒಂದು ಉದ್ಯಮ)
ನೊಂದಾಯಿತ ಕಛೇರಿ : ಆಡಳಿತ ಕಛೇರಿ ಕಟ್ಟಡ, ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ವಸಾಹತು, ರಾಜಾಜಿನಗರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು –560 010
ಫೋನ್/ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್: 91–080–23143566/23389070 ಇ–ಮೇಲ್:kssidcho@karnataka.gov.in ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ : www.kssidc.co.in

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಸಮನ್ವಯ:ಕ.ವಿ:ಮಳಿಗೆ:ನಿವೇಶನ:ಹಂಚಿಕೆ:ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ:2025/06 ದಿನಾಂಕ :23.06.2025

ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ಮಳಿಗೆ/ನಿವೇಶನಗಳ ಹಂಚಿಕೆಗಾಗಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ನಿಗಮದ ಕಲಬುರಗಿ ವಿಭಾಗದ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬರುವ ವಿವಿಧ ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ವಸಾಹತುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಲಭ್ಯವಿರುವ ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ಮಳಿಗೆ/ನಿವೇಶನಗಳನ್ನು ಯಥಾಸ್ಥಿತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹಂಚಿಕೆ ಮಾಡಲು ಆಸಕ್ತ ಉದ್ದಿಮೆದಾರರುಗಳಿಂದ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ವಿವರಗಳು ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿವೆ.

ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಮತ್ತು ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ವಸಾಹತು ಹೆಸರು	ಮಳಿಗೆ/ನಿವೇಶನ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ ಚ.ಮೀ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ	ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ	ಮಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ನಿವೇಶನ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಮಳಿಗೆ/ನಿವೇಶನ/ದರ		ಅರ್ಜಿ ಜೊತೆ ಪಾವತಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಇಎಂಡಿ/ಭದ್ರತಾ ಠೇವಣಿ	
					ದರ ಚ.ಮೀ.ಗೆ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಒಟ್ಟು ಮೌಲ್ಯ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ ದವರಿಗೆ ಶೇ.10 ರಂತೆ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಪ.ಜಾ/ಪ.ಪಂ ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ ದವರಿಗೆ ಶೇ.5 ರಂತೆ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
ಕಲಬುರಗಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ								
ಚಿಂಚೋಳಿ	546	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Q-5, Q-6, Q-7	2000	10,92,000 (ಪ್ರತಿ ನಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ)	1,09,200 (ಪ್ರತಿ ನಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ)	54,600 (ಪ್ರತಿ ನಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ)
	378	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		R-13, R-19, R-22	2000	7,56,000 (ಪ್ರತಿ ನಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ)	75,600 (ಪ್ರತಿ ನಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ)	37,800 (ಪ್ರತಿ ನಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ)
	534.75	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl.-4	2000	10,69,500	1,06,950	53,475
	626.85	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl.-10	2000	12,53,700	1,25,370	62,685
	581.30	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl.-12	2000	11,62,600	1,16,260	58,130
ಶಹಬಾದ್ 2ನೇ ಹಂತ	903	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		P-3	2100	18,96,300	1,89,630	94,815
	887.25	ಪ.ಪಂ		Spl.-8	2100	18,63,225	––	93,162
	504	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl.-16	2100	10,58,400	1,05,840	52,920
	399	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl.-19	2100	8,37,900	83,790	41,895
	1113	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl.-30	2100	23,37,300	2,33,730	1,16,865
ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ								
ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ	795	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		ನಿವೇಶನ ಬಿ–1 ಪಕ್ಕದ ಜಾಗ	6800	60,78,423	6,07,842	3,03,921
ಸಂಡೂರು	382.50	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		ಆರ್–6, ಆರ್–7	2100	8,03,250 (ಪ್ರತಿ ನಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ)	80,325 (ಪ್ರತಿ ನಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ)	40,163 (ಪ್ರತಿ ನಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ)
	378.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		ಆರ್ ಮಾದರಿ ಆರ್–13,14,16,17	2100	7,93,800 (ಪ್ರತಿ ನಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ)	79,380 (ಪ್ರತಿ ನಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ)	39,690 (ಪ್ರತಿ ನಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ)
		ಪ.ಪಂ		R-15	2100	7,93,800 (ಪ್ರತಿ ನಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ)	–	39,690 (ಪ್ರತಿ ನಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ)
		ಪ.ಪಂ ಮಹಿಳೆ		R-18	2100			
	78.75	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--3	2100	1,65,375	16,538	8,269
	80.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--4	2100	1,68,000	16,800	8,400
	48.75	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl.-5	2100	1,02,375	10,238	5,119
	55.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--6	2100	1,15,500	11,550	5,775
	33.75	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--7	2100	70,875	7,088	3,544
	42.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl-8, Spl-10 Spl-12, Spl--22 Spl--25	2100	88,200 (ಪ್ರತಿ ನಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ)	8,820 (ಪ್ರತಿ ನಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ)	4,410 (ಪ್ರತಿ ನಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ)
	30.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl-9 Spl-11 Spl-32 Spl--33	2100	63,000 (ಪ್ರತಿ ನಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ)	6,300 (ಪ್ರತಿ ನಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ)	3,150 (ಪ್ರತಿ ನಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ)
	33.75	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--13	2100	70,875	7,088	3,544
	46.87	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--14	2100	98,427	9,843	4,921
	54.75	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--15	2100	1,14,975	11,498	5,749
	64.37	ಪ.ಜಾ		Spl--16	2100	1,35,177	––	6,759
	27.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--17	2100	56,700	5,670	2,835
	24.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl-18 Spl-21 Spl-23 Spl-24 Spl-26 Spl-27	2100	50,400 (ಪ್ರತಿ ನಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ)	5,040 (ಪ್ರತಿ ನಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ)	2,520 (ಪ್ರತಿ ನಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ)
	32.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--19	2100	67,200	6,720	3,360
	44.62	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--28	2100	93,702	9,370	4,685
	27.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--29	2100	56,700	5,670	2,835
	28.50	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--30	2100	59,850	5,985	2,993
	52.50	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--31	2100	1,10,250	11,025	5,513
	52.50	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--34	2100	1,10,250	11,025	5,513
	25.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--35	2100	52,500	5,250	2,625
	74.10	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--36	2100	1,55,610	15,561	7,781
	56.10	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--37	2100	1,17,810	11,781	5,891
	60.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--38	2100	1,26,000	12,600	6,300
	66.00	ಪ.ಪಂ ಮಹಿಳೆ		Spl--39	2100	1,38,600	––	6,930
	72.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--40	2100	1,51,200	15,120	7,560
	72.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--41	2100	1,51,200	15,120	7,560
	75.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--42	2100	1,57,500	15,750	7,875
	78.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--43	2100	1,63,800	16,380	8,190
	81.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--44	2100	1,70,100	17,010	8,505
	87.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--45	2100	1,82,700	18,270	9,135
	90.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--46	2100	1,89,000	18,900	9,450
	99.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--47	2100	2,07,900	20,790	10,395
	108.00	ಪ.ಪಂ		Spl--48	2100	2,26,800	––	11,340
	270.00	ಪ.ಜಾ		Spl--49	2100	5,67,000	––	28,350
	171.00	ಪ.ಜಾ		Spl--51	2100	3,59,100	––	17,955
	27.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl--53	2100	56,700	5,670	2,835
	223.12	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl.-54	2100	4,68,552	46,855	23,428
E&OE	281.56	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ		Spl.-55	2100	5,91,276	59,128	29,564

ನಿಗದಿತ ಅರ್ಜಿ ನಮೂನೆಗಳನ್ನು ನಿಗಮದ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ವಿವಿಧ ಸ್ಥಳಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಇರುವ ಮಳಿಗೆ/ನಿವೇಶನಗಳ ವಿವರಗಳಾದ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ, ಮೌಲ್ಯ, ಮುಂಗಡ ಠೇವಣಿ ಮೊಬಲಗು, ಪರಿಶೀಲನಾ ಶುಲ್ಕ, ನೀಡಲಾಗುವ ಸಹಾಯಧನ, ಪ್ರವರ್ಗವಾರು ವಿವರ, ಹಂಚಿಕೆಯ ಷರತ್ತು ಮತ್ತು ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ ಸಮಗ್ರ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಸಹಾಯಕ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕರು (ಕೈ.ವ) / ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕರು(ಕೈವ) (ಮೊಬೈಲ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗಳನ್ನು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದೆ) ರವರಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಸದರಿ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ನಿಗಮದ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ **www.kssidc.co.in** ನಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ವೀಕ್ಷಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಅರ್ಜಿ ಶುಲ್ಕ, ಮುಂಗಡ ಠೇವಣಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಅಗತ್ಯ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 31.07.2025 ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 5–00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆವಿಗೆ** ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಸಹಾಯಕ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕರು(ಕೈವ) ವಿಭಾಗೀಯ/ಶಾಖಾ ಕಛೇರಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಾಪ್ರ/ಜೆಎ/1425/2025–26

ಸಹಿ/–
ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು

PULSE-CHECK

For representative purposes. GETTY IMAGES

Widely used fungicide found to be driving C. tropicalis infections

'Candida tropicalis', an important fungal pathogen in India and in many other parts of the world, has been found using chromosome alterations to resist common anti-fungal drugs such as fluconazole and voriconazole

D.P. Kasbekar

Candida tropicalis is an important fungal pathogen in India and many parts of the world. Its infections are associated with a mortality rate of 55-60%. Anti-fungal drugs called azoles, such as fluconazole and voriconazole, are used to treat its infections. But there is a growing concern in medical circles that clinics are seeing an increasing number of infections by strains of *C. tropicalis* that exhibit high resistance to these drugs. What is driving this alarming increase in drug resistance?

A paper published recently in PLoS Biology by researchers from Fudan University in Shanghai has provided the answer. They found that an azole-related fungicide called tebuconazole widely used by farmers and gardeners, and which can accumulate and persist in the environment has driven the increase in azole-resistant *C. tropicalis* infections seen in clinics.

The team also found that tebuconazole-resistant strains exhibited aneuploidy – meaning their chromosome number showed differences from the normal chromosome count for the organism. Such deviation from the normal chromosome complement is known as ploidy plasticity.

Deviating from normal ploidy

In the human body, most cells have two sets of the genome: thus they are diploid. One set of 23 chromosomes comes via the father's sperm and the other set of 23 from the mother's egg. When we, in turn, make eggs or sperm, a process called meiosis ensures only one set of chromosomes each of the 23 pairs is transmitted to them. Eggs or sperm are the only haploid cells in us – meaning they each have one copy of the genome. When a sperm fertilises an egg to make the zygote, diploidy is restored. The zygote then develops into the baby.

On rare occasions, meiosis isn't as efficient and produces sperm or eggs that contain one copy more or one copy less of one or more chromosomes. Such eggs and sperm are said to be aneuploid. Aneuploidy can have serious consequences.

A zygote with three copies instead of two of the smallest chromosome leads to the development of Down syndrome. These individuals have delayed development, characteristically aberrant physical features, and mild to moderate intellectual impairment. Aneuploidy for any of the other chromosomes almost invariably ends in prenatal death. In short, humans don't tolerate ploidy plasticity well – nor do most other animals, plants, and fungi,

For a long time, *C. tropicalis* was also thought to be a diploid organism. Thus, finding that in most tebuconazole-resistant strains the ploidy was altered surprised the researchers.

Enhanced resistance to anti-fungals

The team started with five different *C. tropicalis* strains that were susceptible to tebuconazole and also to clinically-used fluconazole and voriconazole. They exposed the strains to incrementally more tebuconazole concentrations from 0.125 to 16 micrograms/millilitre in liquid medium, then grew them on tebuconazole-containing semisolid media in Petri plates. Finally, they picked 35 tebuconazole-resistant colonies. All these colonies exhibited cross-resistance to fluconazole and voriconazole.

The tebuconazole-resistant strains showed slower growth than their progenitor strains in the absence of antifungals. But in the presence of antifungals, they grew much better. It seems the resistant strains had traded cell growth for antifungal resistance.

The researchers found that the ploidy of tebuconazole-resistant strains ranged from haploid to triploid (that is, three copies of the genome). Those identified as diploid or close to diploid were found by more detailed analyses to, in fact, be segmental aneuploids: they carried duplications or deletions of some chromosome segments.

The duplicated chromosome segments carried genes whose overexpression was known from other studies to increase resistance to azoles. For example, several TBZ-resistant strains had duplications of a chromosomal segment carrying a gene named TAC1, which encodes a protein that helps the cell to produce more of another protein named the ABC-transporter. The ABC-transporter pumps toxic compounds such as the azoles out of the cell.

Conversely, other segmental aneuploids showed haploidisation, that is, deletion of one copy of a segment of another chromosome that carried the HMG1 gene. The overexpression of HMG1 decreased the biosynthesis of a chemical in cell membranes named ergosterol.

Previous studies had shown that in budding yeast, HMG1 overexpression led to lower synthesis of ergosterol and a lower resistance to fluconazole – whereas reduced expression of HMG1 stimulated ergosterol synthesis and elevated resistance to fluconazole. Thus, although the aneuploidies created imbalances in the *C. tropicalis genome* that reduced their growth rate, they enabled the strains to better resist antifungals.

The researchers also verified that the strains with altered ploidy were more virulent than the progenitor strains in mice treated with fluconazole.

An unanticipated haploid

Another unexpected bonus from the new study was the discovery that tebuconazole-resistant strains included stable haploid strains of *C. tropicalis*. The haploid cells were able to undergo mating. These serendipitous findings now provide researchers a useful tool for future genetic analyses.

The researchers recovered a haploid cell from among the tebuconazole-resistant strains generated in the laboratory. They wondered whether any of the 868 *C. tropicalis* strains recorded in clinical visits around the world might include any haploids (that is, naturally haploid rather than as an abnormality). They examined publicly available genomic sequences of these strains and found that two of them, isolated from Spain, were indeed haploid.

In conclusion, the research showed that the reckless use of triazole antifungals in agriculture can unwittingly promote the emergence of pathogenic strains showing cross-resistance to azoles of clinical importance. Further, some of the resistant strains were haploid, like our sperm and egg cells, and could likewise mate and hence be capable of introducing their resistance mechanisms into new genetic backgrounds.

This exemplifies the prophetic warning: "sow the wind, reap the whirlwind".

D.P. Kasbekar is a retired scientist.

KEYWORD

What is a percentile?

C. Aravinda

On June 14, the results of the NEET-UG were declared. Among over 22 lakh candidates, Mahesh Kumar stood out with a score of 686 out of 720. Yet, his percentile was reported not as 100 but as 99.9999547. This number may seem puzzling. Why is the national topper in the country not awarded a 100th percentile?

Percentage vs percentile

A percentage is a straightforward measure of how much a student scores out of the total possible marks. For example, Mahesh's 686 out of 720 translates to roughly 95.27%. Based on the questions answered, it is an absolute measure, showing how much a student knew. A percentile, on the other hand, is a relative measure. It tells us how a student performed compared to others. A 99 percentile means the student did better than 99% of the test-takers. It doesn't say how much the student scored, but where they stand in the crowd. This distinction becomes crucial in exams where lakhs of candidates participate. A mark of 640 might land in a higher percentile one year and a lower percentile the next year simply because the overall performance of the cohort changes. Percentiles help admission authorities compare students by relative performance.

How percentiles are calculated

The basic formula used to calculate percentile is: Percentile = {Number of candidates scoring less than you} divided by {Total number of candidates}*100. This is why even the top ranker doesn't get a 100 percentile. For Mahesh, the number of candidates scoring less than him is 22,09,317 out of 22,09,318 (including himself). When multiplied by 100, that fraction gives a value that is very marginally below 100. This explains the seven-decimal-place result: 99.9999547. It also means that the 100 percentile is mathematically impossible under this formula. You can get very close, but never exactly 100. Interestingly, while a 100 percentile is impossible, a zero percentile is theoretically allowed. The lowest scorer, who performs worse than everyone else, will have zero candidates below them. This gives: Percentile= {0} divided by {Total candidates}* 100 = 0

One fascinating implication of the percentile system is that it reveals the scale of competition. If a student's percentile is 92.8571428, the number of digits after the decimal (in this case, seven) can hint at the total number of test-takers. This is because: Total number of candidates (approximately) = {1}divided by [{1 - ({Percentile}/{100}]. A high degree of decimal precision is used to differentiate between students who are extremely close in performance. For example, a difference of 0.00001 in percentile could separate thousands of candidates in a large exam like NEET.

Across the world, many tests adopt percentile scoring systems. The GMAT, used for MBA admissions, reports raw scores and percentiles. The SAT and GRE also use scaled scores derived from statistical normalisation, often converted to percentiles for easier interpretation.

Implications and clarity

In tightly packed score ranges, even a half mark can create a significant shift in ranks. Percentiles, with their precision, reveal that shift clearly. A score of 95% may be in the 98th percentile, and 85% may be in the 70th percentile, depending upon the clustering of candidates. Percentiles, though abstract, paint the most accurate picture of where you stand, not just what you scored. In a country where aspirations often run higher than available seats, one's percentile shows the narrative of competition, effort, and performance relative to lakhs of others. It offers a clearer understanding that victory lies not in perfection in competitive exams but in being ahead of the rest.

Dr. C. Aravinda is an academic and public health physician.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

English writer George Orwell was born on this day in 1903. Here is a quiz on one of the most well-known and prolific writers of the 20th century

Sindhu Nagaraj

QUESTION 1
Here is an easy one. Where was Orwell born?

QUESTION 2
Orwell is best known for his two books. One is an allegorical novel and another, a dystopian novel. Name both.

QUESTION 3
In this memoir by Orwell, he accounts his personal experiences and observations while fighting in the Spanish Civil War. What is it called?

QUESTION 4
In which context is the term 'Orwellian' used?

QUESTION 5
What was Orwell's birth name? How did the name George Orwell come about?

QUESTION 6
In this work, Orwell wrote about the importance of precise and clear language, arguing that vague writing can be used as a powerful tool of political manipulation. In the essay, Orwell provides six rules for a writer. Name the essay.

Visual question:
In 1984, Orwell and this author (in the picture) were honoured with the Prometheus Award for their contributions to dystopian literature. Name the author and his book for which he got the award. AP

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The world would be an unbalanced place if it allowed the United States of America to rule alone over our canal..." This Nicaraguan leader who wrote this in his manifesto. **Ans: Augosto Sandino**
2. This country was invaded by the U.S. under 'operation just cause'. **Ans: Panama**
3. The Gulf of Tonkin resolution laid the groundwork for U.S. intervention in this country. **Ans: Vietnam**
4. "Richard Nixon and this person allowed the Khmer Rouge to grasp golden opportunities", a Khmer Rouge official said. **Ans: Henry Kissinger**
5. Name the U.S. Navy vessel that sank in Havana harbour in Cuba. **Ans: USS Maine**
Visual: Name this character and the country. **Ans: John Rambo; Afghanistan**
Early Birds: Sukdev Shet| Tito Shiladitya| Sandeep| Yastika Jain| Pranab Biswas

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

From Page One

16 flights cancelled to and from city

In addition to the cancellations, five international flights were also diverted to Bengaluru, of which four flights belonged to Qatar Airways and one to Virgin Australia which were bound to the Hamad International Airport, Doha, from various airports. Among the flights that were diverted to Bengaluru were from Osaka, Phuket, Jakarta, Sydney, and Hong Kong.

Airport sources said the flights that were diverted to the KIA departed after air space opened at 3 a.m.

Many airlines had said that due to the prevailing situation in West Asia, flight operations to and from the region may be affected.

Indigo said that flight arrivals and departures from Dubai, Doha, Bahrain, Dammam, Abu Dhabi, Kuwait, Ras AI-Khaimah, and Tbilisi have been impacted.

In a travel advisory to passengers on Tuesday, the airline said, "As airports across the Middle East gradually reopen, we are prudently and progressively resuming operations on these routes. We continue to monitor the situation closely and are fully considering the safest available flight paths to ensure secure and seamless travel. Please stay updated via our mobile app or website."

'Patrol sensitive areas on foot on weekends and festival days'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In an effort to strengthen community policing and enhance ground-level vigilance, Police Commissioner Seemanth Kumar Singh on Tuesday said that he has instructed all station-level officers to undertake foot patrolling during weekends and festive seasons in sensitive areas.

The directive is part of a proactive policing strategy aimed at deterring crime, improving public interaction, and increasing the visibility of police personnel in sensitive and high-footfall areas. Such initiatives help in building trust with the public and ensure quicker response to emerging situations, a senior official said.

As part of the initiative, Mr. Singh said that jurisdictional police sub-inspectors along with the regular patrolling staff should go on foot patrolling in crowded areas during weekends and festive seasons, especially in the evening. "This will not only improve public-police interaction but also build deterrence to anti-social elements and mischief mongers. Studies show that the police presence on the ground reduces crime rate and improves law and order situation," he said.

The senior police officials have also been instructed to map sensitive areas in their jurisdictions and deploy foot patrolling to improve the effectiveness of policing in these areas.

Devanahalli farmers reject govt.'s proposal on land acquisition

While Large and Medium Industries Minister offers to give up acquisition in three villages, farmer groups insist that acquisition of fertile land in all villages in the project area should be dropped

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As many as 42 organisations from the State are set to participate in the 'Devanahalli Chalo' protest on Wednesday. FILE PHOTO

The Karnataka government appears to be gripped by one more challenge as the 1,193-day protest by farmers of a few villages in Devanahalli taluk against land acquisition, which is said to be one of the longest farmers' protest in Karnataka, is now set to snowball into a State-wide struggle. This came even as Large and Medium Industries Minister M.B. Patil sought to pacify them by stating that acquisition in three villages would be dropped, which the protesters rejected.

As many as 42 various organisations from the State are set to participate in the 'Devanahalli Chalo' protest on Wednesday, marking the launch of a broad-based and more intensified struggle against the Congress government, demanding a complete halt to the process of acquiring 1,777 acres of land by the KIADB in Channarayapatna of Devanahalli taluk for the proposed hi-tech Defence and Aerospace Park.

Since 2022

These farmers, who have been protesting under the banner 'KIADB Land Acquisition Resistance Struggle Committee of Channarayapatna' since April 4, 2022, on Tuesday rejected the government's fresh proposal to exclude only 495 acres of land belonging to three villages in Channarayapatna hobli from the acquisition process.

The farmers are demanding that the acquisition process for the entire parcel of 1,777 acres from eight villages should be shelved.

As part of efforts to convince the farmers to end their protest, Mr. Patil held a meeting with local MLA and Minister K.H. Muniyappa in Bengaluru on Tuesday and announced that 495 acres of land belonging to three villages in Channarayapatna hobli have been excluded from acquisition for the proposed park. He further stated that it has also been decided not to acquire any land from this hobli in future for industrial purposes.

In light of this decision, the Minister appealed to the farmers who were protesting against the acquisition to call off their agitation.

Govt. stand

He made it clear that acquisition of the remaining 1,232 acres will proceed unchanged, covering 10 villages – Palya, Haraluru, Polanahalli, Gokare Bachenahalli, Nalluru, Mallepura, Nallappanahalli, Cheemachanahalli, Muddenahalli, and Hadayala.

While compensation for the acquired land will be determined by the Deputy Commissioner of the district, land losers will have the option to receive 10,771 square feet of developed land per acre, which they can use for commercial purposes, the Minister said. "We must strike a balance between industrial growth and agricultural welfare," Mr. Patil said, while appealing to farmers to end their protest.

However, farmers refused to accept this suggestion and insisted that the entire parcel of land should be excluded from acquisition.

J.M. Veerasangaiah, State working president of Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha, which has expressed its support to the 'Devanahalli Chalo' protest as well as the broad-based struggle, accused the Congress government of going back on the promise made to the protesting farmers before Assembly polls.

"Several Congress leaders including Chief Minister Siddaramaiah (who was then the Opposition leader) had then promised to completely halt the land acquisition process that had been taken up by the erstwhile BJP regime. But now they are not sticking to their promise," he told *The Hindu*.

Hub of vegetables

Pointing out that the land proposed for acquisition is a fertile one that has become a prominent hub for cultivation of vegetables, greens, and fruits, he wondered if it was scientifically right to take away such a fertile land from farmers.

Tara Rao, governing council member of Eddelu Karnataka, a progressive organisation, too expressed concern over the alleged apathy of the government towards the plight of farmers.

The groups that have offered support to the broad-based struggle include Samyukta Horata Karnataka, which is a co-ordination committee of various progressive organisations.

DSEL yet to act against school that denied admission to child

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

Management says school did not deny admission, but child's father moved him to another school

Over a month after the Union Ministry of Education sent a letter to the Department of School Education and Literacy (DSEL), Karnataka to verify and take appropriate action against a private school that allegedly denied admission in class 2 to a child suffering from mild hyperactivity, the department is yet to take any action.

The letter from the Union Government dated May 15 stated that the grievance of the parents of the child highlights the need to ensure that schools adopt inclusive education practices, provide equal access to the right to education, and eliminate any form of discrimination or victimisation of children based on their abilities. The letter sought an action taken report at the earliest.

John Peter, father of the student, complained to the Union Ministry of Education through e-mail that the management of Vidyashilp School, Bagalur, has decided to cancel his son's admission for class 2 based on his learning challenges, disregarding professional assessments and recommendations for accommodation. "The assessment report suggested that he has average intellectual functioning, moderate inattentiveness and impulsivity, and mild hyperactivity," he said.

After examining the complaint, Anusree Raha, Deputy Secretary to the Government of India wrote to the Principal Secretary, DSEL. Rashmi Mahesh, Principal Secretary, DSEL had earlier told *The Hindu* that the complaint was referred to the Commissioner of Public Instruction, and we need to get the action taken report (ATR) by June 17. However, no action has been taken yet, and Ms. Mahesh was not available for comment.

The Commissioner for Persons with Disability Act, on the complaint of the child's parents, had sent a letter to Vidyashilp School requesting admission for the child.

In its clarification to *The Hindu*, the Vidyashilp School management said that they had received a communication from the Commissioner for Persons with Disability Act, and they would be responding to the same.

Further the management claimed that the school had not denied admission to the student, but rather the father had moved the child to another school, while the school was still in discussion with the parent on additional support for the child as per the child's assessment report.

"In the last meeting held on April 12, 2025 with the principal and academic head, it was very clearly stated to the parent that the child would get the necessary support in Vidyashilp School in class 2. When the point on additional support was spoken about by the school authorities, the father of the student, stood up and said that his child had already got admission in another school," it stated.

John Peter told *The Hindu* that it was painful that no action was taken despite the Union Ministry of Education writing to DSEL. "I will write again to the Union Ministry of Education regarding the progress of my complaint. If my child does not get justice, I will approach the court," he said.

Jurisdictional police in the dock after CCB raids on pubs, bars

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Jurisdictional police personnel are in the dock following a series of raids carried out by Central Crime Branch officials on 19 pubs and bars in West and Central Divisions, which not only exposed multiple violations, but also a lack of monitoring by the jurisdictional police.

Taking a strong exception to the violations, Police Commissioner Seemanth Kumar Singh on Tuesday said that a probe had been ordered into the lapses on part of the jurisdictional police and action will be taken based on the report.

Based on a tip-off received by the Commissioner, 11 special police teams of CCB carried out surprise checks at pubs and bars in Upparpet, Cottonpet, Kalasipalya, Cubbon Park, and Ashoknagar police station limits.

The officials found 19 establishments were violating rules and also employed women staff illegally. These pubs and bars were also involved in gross violations of excise rules and operating beyond permissible time limits and did not comply with Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act, 2003 regulations.

According to a senior police official, the pubs and bars have been operating illegally for the last few months and the jurisdictional police failed to monitor and check them.

As part of the probe, the jurisdictional police officers will be summoned for questioning and their statement recorded, following which necessary action will be taken.

One of the police officers, who was part of the raid, in his report stated that by the time the police reached a particular pub in Ashoknagar, the women working in the bar had been taken out and the premises were clean with no violation.

Meanwhile, staff alleged that the raids carried out by the police were selective and many pubs and bars carrying out similar activities were ignored.

DCET results announced

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) announced the DCET-2025 results on Tuesday. A link has been provided on the KEA website for candidates to check their results, said H. Prasanna, executive director, KEA.

Ranks have been announced for around 20,346 candidates. The seat allotment process will begin after the government releases the seat matrix. The DCET is conducted to allow diploma holders direct admission into the third semester or second year of engineering. Ten per cent of seats in each engineering college are reserved for diploma holders, he added.

Online applications are invited from eligible candidates for admission to postgraduate dental (MDS) courses for 2025-26. A link has been provided on the KEA website for application submission, and the last date to apply is June 29. The last date to pay the application fee is June 30, according to Mr. Prasanna. Document verification will begin on June 30. A link for slot booking for the verification will be released on the website on June 27.

राष्ट्रीय पृथ्वी विज्ञान अध्ययन केंद्र
NATIONAL CENTRE FOR EARTH SCIENCE STUDIES
पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार
Ministry of Earth Sciences, Govt. of India
Akkulam, Thiruvananthapuram -11
NCESS

No: NCESS/P&GA/9424/11/2025 Date: 24.06.2025

RECRUITMENT

NCESS conducts walk-in interview on **30.06.2025** at its campus in Thiruvananthapuram, for the posts of **Scientific Administrative Assistant** and **Multi Tasking Staff** on contract basis.
Please visit website for details. Further changes, if any, will be notified through website only.
Website: **www.ncess.gov.in** / Phone No: 0471-2511500.
Sd/- Senior Manager

NATIONAL SILK EXPO
Traditional & Lifestyle
EXHIBITION & SALE
150+ certified weavers & best designers from India
25 June to 1 July 2025
Sindhoor Convention Center
15th Cross, Sarakki, 1st Phase, J.P. Nagar, Ring Road, Bengaluru
Summer Wedding Special
Authentic & pure silk & cotton saree by master weavers from all over India
Silk & Cotton Saree | Designer Wear | Ethnic Wear
Kurti & Dresses | Fashion Jewellery | Handcrafted Textiles
Entry Free • 11am to 9pm• All UPI/Debit/Credit Cards Accepted
nationalsilkexpo nationalsilkex 9412258826
UP TO 50% DISCOUNT BY WEAVERS

Celebrating Ashadhi Ekadashi Since 2005
An Evening of Abhangs 'BOLAVA VITTHAL'
बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा
Bank of Baroda
Presents
Concept & Curated by
!! पंचम निषाद !!
Prathamesh Laghate
Mugdha Vaishampayan | Anand Bhate
27 Friday June 2025
6:30 pm
Please be seated by 6:15 pm (Few Seats Reserved)
At Chowdiah Memorial Auditorium, Bengaluru
Tickets available on bookmyshow
Balance Tickets available at the venue on the day of the concert from 5pm onwards
For more details WhatsApp Messages only 7045597505
LIC HFL LIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD
यूनियन बैंक Union Bank of India
Resonance Designs

THE HINDU
OPPORTUNITIES
GENERAL

UDUPI COCHIN SHIPYARD LIMITED
Malpe, Karnataka
A Government of India Enterprise
Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India
Ref No. UCSL/IMS/HR/VN/F/11-AMs/ELE/MAC/2025/45 Dated 24 June 2025
RECRUITMENT
EXECUTIVES ON CONTRACT BASIS

Sl. No	Name of Posts	No. of Posts
01	Assistant Manager (Electrical)	01 Post
02	Assistant Manager (Mechanical)	02 Posts

For more details on age, qualification, remuneration, reservations, etc with regards to this advertisement visit www.cochinshipyard.in or www.udupicsl.com
Last date for Application: 15 July 2025. Sd/- MANAGER (HR & IR)

VELALAR
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY
Thindal Post, Erode-638 012. Tamilnadu.
Phone No.: 0424 – 2244201 – 205
E-mail: applications@velalarengg.ac.in
Contact: 97509 24402, 98427 34934
WANTED
Assistant Professor / Associate Professor / Professor for the Departments of
Maths / Physics / Chemistry / English
Qualification: MA / MSc with NET / SET Qualification or PhD.
&
Placement Trainer (Aptitude / Coding / Language)
Application with copies of relevant certificates should reach within 10 days (Application format is available in the website: www.velalarengg.ac.in)
SECRETARY

SBI
State Bank of India
Central Recruitment & Promotion Department
Corporate Centre, Mumbai
Phone: 022-22820427
RECRUITMENT OF PROBATIONARY OFFICERS
Applications are invited from eligible Indian citizens for appointment as Probationary Officer in State Bank of India.
NUMBER OF VACANCIES: 541
Eligibility criteria (age, qualification etc.), requisite fee and other details, alongwith a link for online submission of application and online payment of application fee, are available on Bank's website https://bank.sbi/careers/current-openings under Advertisement No. CRPD/PO/2025-26/04. Candidates are advised to go through the detailed advertisement and ensure their eligibility and other details before applying and remitting fee.
• DATE FOR ONLINE REGISTRATION & PAYMENT OF FEE: 24.06.2025 TO 14.07.2025
For any query, please write to us through the link "CONTACT US" which is available on Bank's official website mentioned above.
Place: Mumbai
Date: 24.06.2025 General Manager (RP & PM)

Zameer denies graft charges; says inquiry will be ordered

BJP demands CM's resignation, accusing him of indulging in 'corruption' and giving 'targets' to Ministers to raise resources

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Breaking his silence on the corruption charges levelled against his department, Housing Minister B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan announced on Tuesday that an inquiry would be ordered into the allegations and offered to voluntarily quit if it is proved that he had taken money for allotment of houses.

At a press conference here on Tuesday, he said he was "not living in penury to survive by taking bribes for sanctioning houses meant for the underprivileged".

The Minister's response came minutes after the BJP trained its guns on Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, calling the alleged corruption "state-sponsored corruption", and demanded his resignation. "Mr. Siddaramaiah should immediately tender his resignation if he has any dignity left. Otherwise, Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot should intervene," BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra had said earlier.

Issuing clarification: Housing Minister B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan at a press meet in Bengaluru on Tuesday.

Patil's charge

Senior Congress MLA and Deputy Chairman of the Karnataka State Policy and Planning Commission B.R. Patil had alleged there was corruption in the allotments under housing schemes meant for the poor. Mr. Khan also said he would speak directly with Mr. Patil to get more information. He said the Chief Minister had been fully informed about the issue, while clarifying that Mr. Patil had not specifically levelled allegations against him or named any officials. "If anyone from the village panchayat concerned has taken money, action will be taken," he said. The Minister attributed his late response to the corruption charges to the fact that he was on an official tour. Now, he has held a meeting with the officials concerned and gathered all the information, he said.

'Dept. has no role'

Asked about MLA Beluru Gopalakrishna's demand for his resignation, the Minister said, "He does not know the facts. The Housing Department has no role in the house allotment process. The selection of beneficiaries happens at the gram panchayat level. Houses are allotted based on the recommendation letters of MLAs. Even in the Aland constituency represented by Mr. Patil, allotments were made based on a letter from Mr. Patil. A total of 950 houses have been allotted."

Earlier, Mr. Vijayendra alleged that no work could happen without a bribe, right from the panchayat to the Secretariat, in all departments. Alleging that a "commission mafia" had taken over the State, he accused the Chief Minister of giving targets for Ministers close to him to raise resources to protect his chair. "Already, B. Nagendra (former Minister) fell for it (referring to the mismanagement of funds in the Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki ST Development Corporation). Next in line is Housing Minister Zameer Ahmed Khan," Mr. Vijayendra remarked.

Mr. Vijayendra alleged the Chief Minister had "closed his eyes only to protect his chair" and had lost hold over administration. "He has made the people of the State suffer with maladministration as he wants to continue in power just to break the long-tenure record of the the late D. Devaraj Urs," he said.

Party brass asks CM to rein in erring legislators

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah is learnt to have been asked by the Congress central leadership to rein in the party legislators who have been publicly making accusations of lack of funds and corruption and embarrassing the government.

During a meeting held with AICC general secretary in charge of Karnataka Randeep Singh Surjewala in New Delhi on Tuesday, internal developments in the party came up for discussion, sources in the Chief Minister's Office said. Mr. Surjewala is learnt to have told Mr. Siddaramaiah to control the legislators from speaking in public and causing embarrassment. "The Chief Minister has been asked to issue a serious warning to the erring legislators," said the source.

Incidentally, the Chief Minister has said he would meet Aland legislator and Karnataka State Policy and Planning Commission Deputy Chairman B.R. Patil and North-Western Karnataka Road Transport Corporation chairman and Kagwad legislator Bharamagouda (Raju) Kage, both of whom have publicly admitted to corruption in public works and slow-paced development owing to paucity of funds.

Council nominations

The issue of the nomination of four persons to the Legislative Council was among the other political developments in the State that were discussed. While the list was almost ready, the central leadership asked the government to withhold it and not send it to the Governor.

"Mr. Surjewala informed that the list would be finalised once the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, who is travelling, returns. The same list is likely to be retained," sources said.

Meeting with Murmu

Earlier, the Chief Minister met President Draupadi Murmu to discuss the Bills awaiting the President's assent and requested her to clear them. "Seven Bills have not received the assent, and I came here to request their clearance. The President informed me that the Bills are not with her, but with the departments concerned. I have requested her to get the Bills from the departments and clear them," the Chief Minister told presspersons in Delhi, after the meeting.

The Bills that are pending with the President are: the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Karnataka Amendment) Bill, 2015; the Karnataka (Mineral Rights and Mineral Bearing Land) Tax Bill, 2024; the Registration (Karnataka Amendment) Bill, 2024; the Notaries (Karnataka Amendment) Bill, 2025; the Registration (Karnataka Amendment) Bill, 2025; the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurements (KTPP) (Amendment) Bill, 2025, and the Karnataka Hindu Religious Institutions and Charitable Endowments (Amendment) Bill, 2024.

Chance encounter

Film actor Aamir Khan greeting Chief Minister Siddaramaiah at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi on Tuesday.

Adopt growth-oriented approach in tax devolution: CM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Siddaramaiah, during his meeting with Nirmala Sitharaman, highlights development challenges in Bengaluru, Kalyana Karnataka, Malnad

Urging the Centre to adopt a pro-growth approach in tax devolution among the States by the 16th Finance Commission, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Tuesday highlighted the developmental challenges in Karnataka.

The Chief Minister, during his meeting with Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in Delhi on Tuesday, highlighted the development challenges in Bengaluru, Kalyana Karnataka, and Malnad regions, and argued that a fair and pro-growth devolution would accelerate the State's growth.

Special grants

The State has sought special grants to Bengaluru since it requires ₹1.15 lakh crore to undertake capital work, while grants have been sought for the Malnad region affected by floods. The State has also sought grants for the Kalyana Karnataka region that is covered under the Article 371 J providing special status, but is yet to receive money from the Centre.

Claiming that Karnataka has lost a total of ₹80,000 crore during the award period of the 15th Finance Commission, the Chief Minister said that Karnataka's share in tax devolution declined from 4.713% to 3.647%, while the State was also not allocated ₹11,495 crore of the special grants. A major reason for this, he pointed out, was the over-reliance on the income distance criterion, which received 45% weightage under the 15th FC.

"The State government has requested the 16th FC that the weightage for income distance should be reduced by 20 percentage points and reallocated to fiscal contribution, which is the State's share in the national GDP," Mr. Siddaramaiahsaid.

The Chief Minister told reporters in Delhi that his meeting with the Finance Minister followed his earlier meeting with the chairperson and members of the 16th Finance Commission. He said that an additional memorandum has been submitted.

Karnataka has also requested the Centre to discontinue the Revenue Deficit Grants in their current format since they are against the principles of fiscal discipline as proposed in the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management framework. The State has proposed that the same amount – which was 1.92% of the gross union receipts under the 15th FC – should be redistributed among all States using the horizontal devolution formula.

Centre announces market intervention price for mango

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a relief for mango farmers in Karnataka, the Centre has announced a market intervention price for the produce at ₹1,616 a quintal under the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for 2025-26.

According to a letter by Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan to Union Minister of Heavy Industries and Steel H.D. Kumaraswamy, the Centre has approved the market intervention price for a quantity of up to 2.5 lakh tonnes of mango. Mr. Kumaraswamy had written to the Agriculture Minister earlier in the day, drawing his attention to the urgent need for the Centre's intervention to support mango growers in the south Karnataka region through the provision of the minimum support price and procurement assistance.

Relief: According to a letter by Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan to Union Minister of Heavy Industries and Steel H.D. Kumaraswamy, the Centre has approved the market intervention price of ₹1,616 a quintal for up to 2.5 lakh tonnes of mango. FILE PHOTO

Last week, the Karnataka Cabinet discussed the financial crisis faced by mango growers following a crash in prices in the market, and Chief Minister Siddaramaiah asked Agriculture Minister N. Cheluvarayaswamy to hold talks with Mr. Chouhan to seek compensation.

A few days ago, Mr. Siddaramaiah appealed to the Centre to take urgent steps to help mango farmers in the State. In a letter to Mr. Chouhan, Mr. Siddaramaiah requested the Centre to start a price deficiency payment and market intervention scheme and start immediate procurement though Central agencies such as National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. and National Cooperative Consumers' Federation Of India Ltd. to support farmers and stop further distress in rural areas. Two days ago, former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda also wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Mr. Chouhan.

Welcoming the announcement, Neelaturu Chinnappa Reddy, president of the Kolar District Mango Growers' Association, said, "We are very happy with the decision." He urged both Centre and State governments to support farmers.

UGCET: KEA releases verification slip

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) is making all arrangements for the allotment of seats for professional courses such as medical and engineering. As part of this process, the KEA has released the verification slip.

Candidates who have claimed reservation and other benefits while filling out their application must now check whether all such claims have been correctly mentioned in the verification slip.

Seat allotment will be done based on the claims mentioned in this slip, said H. Prasanna, Executive Director of the KEA, in a press statement.

If there are any errors in the claimed details, the KEA will soon announce a date to make corrections. On that day, candidates must visit the KEA premises in person to correct the discrepancies after an appointment, Mr. Prasanna said.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Smt.Jayalakshmi
DOB: 16.08.1927
DOD: 17.12.2004

Sri.K.V.Rajagopalan
DOB: 26.11.1918
DOD: 25.06.2001

Fondly Remembered by Children, Grand Children & Great Grand Children

REMEMBRANCE

REMEMBRANCE

Sri D B Manival Raju
Age: 71 Years
Member, Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (Retd.)
Commissioner of Income Tax (Retd.)

With a heavy heart, we share the news of his demise on 23 June 2025

Deeply loved and mourned by family and friends.

You will be missed.

IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES
To dedicate a space in this section, Please contact:
Bengaluru: 98455 29981,
Hubballi: 0836 - 2338600
Mangaluru: 0824 - 2417575,
from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Online booking: www.thehinduads.com
DONATE EYES - GIFT SIGHT

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರಕಾರ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕೋಶ, ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ, ಕಾರವಾರ – 581 301
DISTRICT URBAN DEVELPOMENT CELL, D.C. OFFICE UTTARA KANNADA DISTRICT, KARWAR-581 301
Telephone: 08382 221170 Email: ka.uttarakannada.dudc@gmail.com
No: UK/DUDC/AmrutNagarothanaPhase-4/CR/2024-25 Dated: 21-06-2025

Short Term Tender Notification

The Executive Engineer, District urban Development Cell, Uttar Kannada district, Karwar invites tenders from eligible KPWD Registered contractors for Amruth Nagarothan-4 Project work as per KTPP Act 1999 Rule 2000 as detailed below through KPPP Portal **(http:/kppp.karnataka.gov.in).** Uploading of tender documents on **23-06-2025 at 16.00 hrs,** Pre bid Meeting / Tender for clarification date: **30-06-2025 at 11:00 hrs,** Last date for uploading of completed tender documents on **11-07-2025 at 17.00 hrs,** Opening of Technical Bid: **14-07-2025 at 17.30 hrs** & Opening of Financial Bid: **20-07-2025 at 16.00 hrs.**

ULB Name	Indent Number
CMC Karwar	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT 40262
	DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT 37651

All other required tender information may be availed from the website **http:/kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** and **http://www.uttarakannadadudc.mrc.gov.in/.**or Project Director, DUDC, UK Office .

Sd/-, Executive Engineer
District Urban Development Cell
DC Office, U.K. District, Karwar

DIPR/ADK/KSMCA/219/25-26 dt. 24.06.2025

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT
ENGINEERING WING
Office of the Chief Engineer, Arogya Soudha, 3rd floor, Leprosy Hospital Premises, 1st Cross, Magadi Road, Bengaluru-560 023,
Telephone No.080-29557023 E-mail:cekhsdrp@gmail.com
No:HFWD/EW/CE/TA-3/AE-4/TND/2025-26/993 Date: 20.06.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Chief Engineer, HFWD, Engineering Wing, Bengaluru invites Tender for Appointment of Consultants for Preparation of **DPR, Architectural, Structural and other services Drawings** in two Cover Tender document system in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Platform for the following works under the Head of Account: KMERC Funds.

Sl. No.	Description of works	Approx. Service Estimate cost (Rs. In Lakhs)	EMD (Rs. In Lakhs)
1	Consultancy Services for Preparation of **DPR, Architectural, Structural and other services Drawings** for the work of Strengthening of selected Government Hospitals in **Chitradurga Taluk** through various rejuvenation facilities.	3.30	0.083
2	Consultancy Services for Preparation of **DPR, Architectural, Structural and other services Drawings** for the works of Strengthening of selected Government Hospitals in **Holalkere Taluk** through various rejuvenation facilities.	4.30	0.11
3	Consultancy Services for Preparation of **DPR, Architectural, Structural and other services Drawings** for the works of Strengthening of selected Government Hospitals in **Hosadurga Taluk** through various rejuvenation facilities.	3.40	0.085
4	Consultancy Services for Preparation of **DPR, Architectural, Structural and other services Drawings** for the works of Strengthening of selected Government Hospitals in **Molakalmuru Taluk** through various rejuvenation facilities.	2.00	0.05

Calendar of Events: (1) Last date for receipt of tenders: **05.07.2025 up to 16.00 hrs. (2)** Date of Opening of Tenders (Technical Bids) : **07.07.2025 at 16.01 hrs.**

The tender details can be downloaded from the KPP portal platform. Tenders shall be submitted electronically at **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** and tender processing fee shall also be paid electronically. Interested eligible contractors shall register on the KPP platform to participate in this tender.

NOTE: (1) All the rights are reserved by the undersigned for postponement or cancellation of entire tender process, rejection of bids / individual bid etc., without assigning any reason. **(2)** Henceforth, any changes in the schedule / contents will not be published through newspapers and further changes will be updated only on KPP portal.

Sd/- Chief Engineer, H&FWD, Engineering Wing, Bengaluru.

Teach lessons on Emergency in schools, says Arlekar

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Kerala Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar has advocated for the inclusion of lessons on the Emergency on the school curriculum.

He was speaking at the launch of two books, *Democracy Enchained: Nation Disgraced* and *Shah Commission: Echoes from a Buried Report*, authored by Goa Governor P.S. Sreedharan Pillai here on Tuesday.

In a thinly veiled barb at General Education Minister V. Sivankutty, Mr. Arlekar said it was up to the government to decide whether to include content on the constitutional role of Governors on the syllabus. He, however, stressed the need to prioritise the history of Emergency.

"Let the next generation know what happened [during the Emergency]. Let them understand who destroyed democracy and were responsible for the atrocities in the country. All such adversities should be recorded on our curriculum," he said.

Speaking on the occasion, Andhra Pradesh Governor S. Abdul Nazeer said: "The Emergency is a watershed moment that not only tested the resilience of India's democratic institutions, but also left indelible scars on the collective memory of its citizens".

Mr. Pillai criticised the Communist Party of India (Marxist) for allegedly remaining a mute spectator during the Emergency.

Airspace open but flight disruption to West Asian countries continues

Many foreign carriers continue to be cautious, cancelling, rescheduling, or re-routing many services to avoid regions considered risky; 18 flights from Kochi and eight from Thiruvananthapuram were cancelled

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

A scene at Calicut International Airport on Monday following the cancellation of flights to various Gulf destinations. SAKEER HUSSAIN

Though West Asian countries reopened their airspaces on Tuesday morning after a night-long shutdown in anticipation of fresh attacks by Iran on U.S. airbases, the flight services to and from the country, especially to and from Kerala, to various West Asian destinations continued to be impacted by the cascading effect of the disruption of flight services during an entire night.

For instance, Air India Express has been operating around 900 flights to 13 destinations in West Asia with peak traffic at night. Grounding of the entire services at night will have a consequential impact on other services as these aircraft are redeployed on other routes.

However, Air India Express, the airline that operates the highest number of flights to West Asian destinations from the country, especially from Kerala, said in a statement on Tuesday that it was gradually "resuming its operations on the Delhi-Muscat, Mumbai-Muscat, Kozhikode-Muscat, Kozhikode-Riyadh, and Jaipur-Jeddah routes". It has scheduled flights to and from key cities in the UAE, including Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Sharjah, Al Ain, and Ras Al Khaimah, as well as other cities in the West Asian region on Wednesday.

Although airspaces were reopened, many foreign carriers continued to be cautious, cancelling, rescheduling, or re-routing many services to avoid areas considered risky. Eighteen flights from Kochi were cancelled on Monday night, while eight flights from Thiruvananthapuram were cancelled.

After the closure of Pakistan and Iran's airspace, the airspaces over West Asian countries were experiencing heavy congestion after airlines switched to a disruption-free airspace.

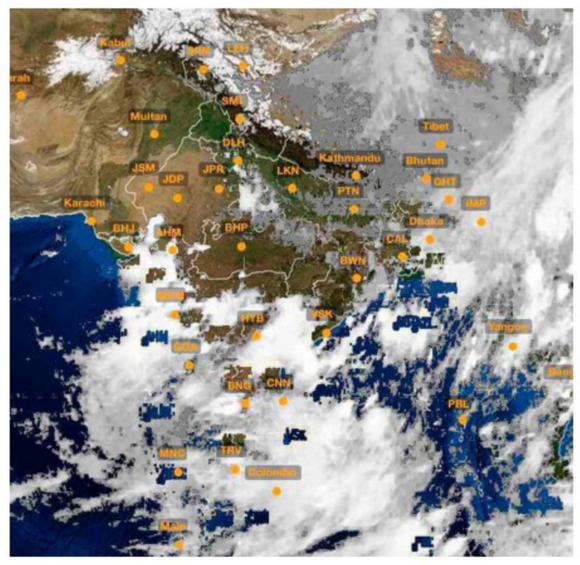
Though the easing of airspace restrictions brought a temporary relief to the passengers, it caused a sharp rise in airfares to India.

On Tuesday night, airfares from UAE to Kochi were in the range of ₹80,397- ₹1.13 lakh. Similarly, the fares are in the range of ₹55,000-₹90,000 lakh on the UAE-Kerala route on Wednesday. "It's not predatory pricing. Seats are fewer, but demand is high, which drives the fares up. On the other hand, the fares to West Asia from Kerala are normal or below normal," said sources.

Any disruption, including airspace closures for a brief period on short notice, will affect the operational revenue of airlines as well as the timely operation of the services. So the passengers have to keep vigil against cancellations, rescheduling, and rerouting at least until the region limps back to full normalcy, said airline sources.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 19.00 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Bihar, Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Sikkim, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, Karnataka and Kerala

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	1	34.8	27.0	Kozhikode	12	33.0	24.4
Ahmedabad	2	30.9	26.0	Kurnool	—	33.5	25.9
Aizawl	2	32.4	20.8	Lucknow	—	37.5	27.6
Allahabad	—	34.8	27.4	Madurai	—	38.0	26.1
Bengaluru	—	27.2	21.0	Mangaluru	10.8	29.6	23.3
Bhopal	0.8	30.0	24.6	Mumbai	42	30.9	23.4
Bhubaneswar	0.1	32.6	25.8	Mysuru	5	29.2	21.2
Chandigarh	10	32.8	27.2	New Delhi	4	36.1	28.2
Chennai	—	36.8	28.0	Patna	—	34.3	28.0
Coimbatore	—	32.5	23.0	Port Blair	53.4	29.5	22.8
Dehradun	3	32.0	24.6	Puducherry	—	36.0	26.2
Gangtok	9	21.3	18.4	Pune	9	31.5	22.2
Goa	25	29.3	24.5	Raipur	1.6	29.9	25.0
Guwahati	14	33.5	26.1	Ranchi	45	30.4	22.8
Hubballi	—	27.0	23.0	Shillong	2	25.2	18.5
Hyderabad	1	31.2	24.0	Shimla	—	26.2	21.6
Imphal	0.4	28.7	24.0	Srinagar	—	35.5	22.4
Jaipur	46	33.9	25.7	Thiruvananthapuram	—	31.8	26.0
Kochi	0.4	30.4	25.8	Tiruchi	—	37.1	26.4
Kohima	2	25.2	19.4	Vijayawada	3	31.4	25.8
Kolkata	—	34.5	27.4	Visakhapatnam	8	29.3	25.2

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO₂	NO₂	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.10	..63	43	 37	63	.....
Bengaluru	.12	3	17	 42	...153	.....
Chennai	.15	..24	24	 60	88	.....
Delhi	.39	..55	38	 90	...159	.....
Hyderabad	...6	8	84	 88	93	.....
Kolkata	.10	..40	24	 32	32	.....
Lucknow	...7	..40	62	 53	88	.....
Mumbai	.37	4	..4	 76	92	.....
Pune	..—	..56	73	 37	61	.....
Visakhapatnam	.10	..70	38	 61	89	.....

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Nandesari, Gujarat recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 164 indicating a moderate level of pollution. In contrast, Shillong, Meghalaya recorded a healthy AQI score of 15

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO₂: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO₂: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Siddaramaiah, Naidu to open VIP block at Tirumala

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a significant move, Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu are set to jointly inaugurate a newly developed VIP block, a *kalyani*, and a temple on the Karnataka Choultry premises on Tirumala in September.

The event marks a major step towards improving facilities for devotees from Karnataka visiting the hill shrine of Lord Venkateswara, according to Muzrai Minister Ramalinga Reddy.

As part of the redevelopment plan on Tirumala, Mr. Reddy, inaugurated a key component of the project – the newly constructed Sri Krishnaraja Wadiyar Block Kalyana Mantapa, a wedding and function hall with a seating capacity of 500, located at the Mysore Complex at Tirumala on Monday. "The mantapa also houses 13 rooms and is now open for devotees to host events such as weddings, naming ceremonies, and other religious or family functions," Mr. Reddy told *The Hindu*.

Mr. Reddy said, "The VIP block, which includes 36 well-furnished rooms, a ceremonial pond, and a temple, would be inaugurated in September in the presence of our Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister, along with the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. This has been a long-pending dream of devotees from Karnataka, and we are happy to fulfil it."

The Karnataka government has taken the initiative to renovate and expand the Karnataka choultries on Tirumala, which were reportedly neglected for several years. The additions include the Sri Krishnadevaraya Block, which will have 36 AC suites, and the Wadiyar block, both of which are nearing completion.

Online and offline booking options have been made available through the Karnataka Religious Endowment Department's portal www.karnatakatemplesaccommodation.com. "Currently, 60% of rooms are open for online booking, while 40% are reserved for offline bookings," Mr. Reddy added.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the general public that our client intends to enter into Joint Development with respect to immovable properties bearing Survey No.346/1 measuring 2 Acres 16 Guntas, including 16 Guntas of 'B' Kharab from **M JAYANTHI WIFE OF B S MANI**; and Survey No. 346/2 measuring 03 Acres 04 Guntas including 04 Guntas of 'B' Kharab from **R TRIVENI WIFE OF LATE M RAMESH, R RAJESHWARI DAUGHTER OF LATE M RAMESH, R NAVEEN SON OF LATE M RAMESH**, Survey No. 346/3 measuring 03 Acres 02 Guntas including 02 Guntas of 'B' Kharab from **H S NAGAMANI WIFE OF K C JAGANATH REDDY** and Survey No. 349 measuring 01 Acres from **H S GOPINATH REDDY son of Somashekara Reddy**, all situated at Hulimangala Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru District, which is more fully described in the schedule hereunder and hereinafter referred to as "***Schedule Properties***".

Notice is hereby given to the general public that any person/s other than the Owners, asserting any right, title, charge, lien, claim/s or any interest whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Properties are hereby called upon to submit to the undersigned, their claim/s, if any, over the Schedule Properties or their objections, if any, to the aforementioned transaction. The said claim/s or objections must be in writing, together with documentary proof of such claim/s or objections, so as to reach us at the address given below within a period of **10 (Ten) days** from the date of publication of this Notice. If no such claim/s or objections are received, it shall be deemed that no one else other than the Owners has/ have any right, title, interest or claim/s whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Properties and our Client would be at liberty to proceed with the aforesaid transaction in connection with the Schedule Properties.

SCHEDULE

(description of the Schedule Properties)

All that piece and parcel of the immovable agricultural properties totally admeasuring 9 Acres 22 Guntas, which is inclusive of 22 Guntas of B Kharab, comprised in the below mentioned survey numbers, all situated at Hulimangala Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru District.

Sl. No.	Survey Number	Extent Acres	Extent Guntas	Boundaries East	West	North	South
1.	346/1	02	16	Herandahalli Village Border	Survey No. 346/2	Survey No. 154	Survey No. 349
2.	346/2	03	04	Survey No. 346/1	Survey No. 346/3	Survey No. 154	Survey No. 349
3.	346/3	03	02	Survey No. 346/2	Survey No. 345	Survey No. 154	Survey No. 348 & 349
4.	349	01	00	Remaining Portion of Survey No. 349	Survey No. 348/1	Survey No. 346/3	Road and Remaining Portion of Survey No.349

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 25.06.2025

Abhijit Atur,
M/s Agraa Legal, 3rd Floor, Shravanee Krishna Mansion, Ashoka Pillar Road, Jayanagar 2nd Block, Bengaluru 560011
Ph: (080) 2962001/02 Email: admin@agraalegal.com

KARNATAKA STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION
Central Office: Bengaluru - 560 027.
Traffic (Com) Section

NO: KSRTC/CO/TRF/COM-03/2890/455/2025-26 Date: 23.06.2025

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
KSRTC/TRF/COM/01/2025-26 Dated: 23.06.2025

Tenders are invited through e-portal for the Selection of Agency for grant of Advertisement Rights on 5000 Ordinary, Express and City buses of KSRTC from the interested Qualified Bidders.

1. **ELF** (Economic License Fee) per Bus per Month is Rs.1,897/- per.
2. The contract **period** shall be for Five (5) years only
3. There shall be annual escalation in license fee of 5% (Five) for 2nd year and thereafter yearly escalation of 10% (Ten).
4. The **EMD** amount fixed is Rs.25,00,000/-
5. The Bidder has to pay Rs.500/- through e-portal by e-payment mode and Rs.24,99,500/- through DD in favour of CAO-FA, KSRTC Bengaluru-27.
6. The **Application Fee** of Rs.5,900/- (including GST) has to be paid through DD in favour of CAO-FA, KSRTC Bengaluru-27
7. **Calendar of events: 1)** Pre bid meeting **05.07.2025, 11:00 a.m.** 2) Last date for Submission of Bids **17.07.2025,17:30hrs.** 3) Opening of Technical Bid: **23.07.2025, 12.00 Noon.** 4) Opening of Financial Bid: **31.07.2025, 11.00 a.m.**
8. The Financial Bids of the Bidders, who have qualified in Technical Bid will only be opened.
9. The Terms & Conditions, Eligibility Criteria and other requirement details can be downloaded from the e-portal website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** from **26-06-2025.**
10. KSRTC reserves the right to accept or reject tenders without assigning any reason thereof.
11. For more information contact Chief Traffic Manager (Com) - 7760990010, Divisional Traffic Officer (Com)-7760992737. Assistant Traffic Manager (Com)-7349363659
12. Email-**support@eprochelpdesk.com** Contact no: 080-68948777 /080-46010000

Sd/-
Chief Traffic Manager (Com)
Central Offices, Shanthinagara, Bengaluru-27.

DIPR/CP/1437/MAA/25-26

Karnataka Bank Ltd.
Your Family Bank. Across India.

Asset Recovery Management Branch,
Karnataka Bank Building, First Floor, Ward No.29,
Maraluru Extension, Sadashivanagar, Tumakuru-572105
Phone: 0816-2294905/2294906
E-Mail: tum.arm@ktkbank.com
Website: www.karnatakabank.com
CIN: L85110KA1924PLC001128

MEGA E-AUCTION
NOTICE OF SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES ON 30.07.2025

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) / Rule 9 (1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s), Guarantor(s), Mortgagor(s) & Co-obligant(s) that the below described immovable property/ies mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the **Constructive/Physical Possession** of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer (details mentioned below), will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", "Whatever there is" on 30.07.2025** at the below mentioned timings for recovery of dues with further interest and cost thereon due to the **Karnataka Bank Ltd.**

The details are as under: Reserve Price and Earnest Money Deposits details are as under & the Earnest Money Deposit shall be deposited on or before **29.07.2025 at 4.00 pm** through online payment to the Account No. details of which are given below or by way of DD favouring **Karnataka Bank Ltd.,**

Sl. No.	Name of the Borrower/s/Mortgagor/s/Guarantor/s/ Co-Obligant/s Loan Account No.	Balance O/S Rs. Future Interest From + Penal Charges + Costs	Possession Date Possession Type	Description of the Properties	Reserve Price (Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Rs.	Auction Time	Incremental Value of the Bid	Branch Name & Account Details for Remitting EMD/ IFSC Code
1	**1) Mr. Ismail** S/o. Abdul Bashir Sab, Prop: M/s.Abdul Basheer Cycle Shop, No.513, Police Lane, Tiptur, Tumakuru - 572201. **2) Mrs. Rahamath Unnisa** W/o. Ismail, No.513, Police Lane, Tiptur, Tumakuru – 572201. **3) Mr. Nizamuddin** S/o. Navaba Jaan, No.531, Police Lane, Tiptur, Tumakuru - 572201. **Loan A/c No.: Term Loan A/c No.7547001600069901**	**Total Rs.2,32,134.36 (Rupees Two Lakhs Thirty Two Thousand One Hundred Thirty Four and Thirty Six Paisa Only) + Future Interest from 14.06.2025 + Penal Charges & Costs**	**26.03.2025 & Constructive**	All that piece and parcel of Residential Property bearing CMC Khata No. 1357/1086 (Site No. 6) measuring 1380 Sq Ft (EW-46, NS-30) situated at Ward No. 16/1, East of Bovi Colony, Chamundeshwari Extension, Gandhi Nagara, Tiptur,belonging to Mr.Ismail.**Bounded by: East:** Site No.5, **West:** Site No.7, **North:** Conservancy, **South:** CMC Road.	**Rs.27,96,000/- (Rupees Twenty Seven Lakh Ninety Six Thousand Only)**	**.Rs.2,79,600/- (Rupees Two Lakh Seventy Nine Thousand Six Hundred Only)**	**From 11.20 AM to 11.35 AM**	**Rs. 50,000/-**	**Karnataka Bank Ltd Tiptur Main Branch A/c No: 7543500200004101 IFSC:KARB0000754**
2	**1. Mr.N Manjunatha** S/o Mr. N Narayana Gowda, Door No.3535, K Bypalli Road, Muthyalapete, Mulbagal-563131, Kolar District. **2. Mrs.Roopa V V** W/o Mr.N Manjunatha, Door No.3535, K Bypalli Road, Muthyalapete, Mulbagal-563131, Kolar District **Loan A/c No.: (1) PSTL A/c No.2467001800000301 (2) ODKC A/c No.2467000800000201**	**Total Rs.1,43,89,893.85 (Rupees One Crore Forty Three Lakhs Eighty Nine Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety Three & Eighty Five Paise Only [(1) 1,20,69,149.85 + Future Interest from 01.04.2025 + Penal Charges & Costs. (2) 23,20,744.00 + Future Interest from 01.05.2025 + Penal Charges & Costs.]**	**17.05.2025 & Constructive**	All that part and parcel of Commercial property bearing Khata No.4327/3861,PID No.17-04-144 measuring 960 Sq.ft situated at K Byapalli Road, Muthyalapete, Mulbagal-563131, Kolar District with building constructed thereon belonging to 1) Mr.N Manjunatha, 2) Kumari Dalika Gowda M, 3) Kumari Parthavi Gowda M and 5) Master Bhavik Gowda M (No.2 to 5 are minors represented by their father Mr.N Manjunatha) **Bounded by : East :** Fishery Krishnappa's Shop Property, **West** : Bhagath Singh Road, **North** : K Byyapalli Road, **South** : Road.	**Rs.99,87,000/- (Rupees Ninety Nine Lakh Eighty Seven Thousand only).**	**Rs.9,98,700/- (Rupees Nine Lakh Ninety Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Only)**	**From 12.40 PM to 12.55 PM**	**Rs. 50,000/-**	**Karnataka Bank Ltd Mulbagal Branch A/c No: 2463500200004101 IFSC:KARB0000246**
3	**(1) M/s Fortune Fitness, Rep.by its Proprietor : Mr.Hemantharaju,** Vinayaka Nagara, B.M.Road, Ramanagaram-562159 **(2) Mr.Hemantha Raju, S**/o Late.Byraiah, **(3) Mrs.Kempamma,** W/o Late.Byraiah, **(4) Mr.Ravi Kumar B.,** S/o Late.Byraiah, **No.2, 3 & 4 are residing at :** No.28, B.M.Road, Vinayaka Nagar, Ramanagaram-562159 **(5) Mrs.Rukmini,** W/o Mr.Shivaraju, No.44, Kurupet, 4th Division, Kanakapura-562117 **(6) Mrs.Roopa B.,** W/o Mr.Puttegowda, No.99, Kothipura, Ramanagaram-562159. **Loan A/c No.: PSTL A/c No.6527001800030001**	**Total Rs.18,77,086.49 (Rupees Eighteen Lakhs Seventy Seven Thousand Eighty Six and Forty Nine Paise Only) + Future Interest from 05.07.2020 + Penal Charges & Costs**	**17.06.2022 & Physical**	All that part and parcel of **Residential Property** bearing **Khatha No.312/1498/1158B, measuring 556 Sq.ft,** with A.C.Sheet Roofed House constructed on one portion of the property and RCC roofed house constructed on other portion of the property, situated at B.M.Road, 2nd Ward, Vinayaka Nagar, Ramanagara Town & District belonging to **(1) Mr.Hemantha Raju, (2) Mrs.Kempamma, (3) Mr.Ravi Kumar B., (4) Mrs.Rukmini & (5) Mrs.Roopa B. Boundaries pertaining to AC Sheet Roof House measuring 322 Sq.ft : East by :** House of Ningamma, **West by:** Sampu available in same number, **North by:** House of Chandrashekar S/o Sidappa, **South by:** Share allotted to Share of Raju. **Boundaries pertaining to RCC Roof House measuring 234 Sq.ft : East by :** Sampu available in same number, **West by:** House of Kempegowda S/o Siddappa, **North by:** House of Chandrashekar S/o Siddappa, **South by:** Share allotted to Kumar.	**Rs.5,84,000/- (Rupees Five Lakh Eighty Four Thousand only)**	**Rs.58,400/- (Rupees Fifty Eight Thousand Four Hundred Only)**	**From 01.00 PM to 01.15 PM**	**Rs. 20,000/-**	**Karnataka Bank Ltd Ramanagara Branch A/c No: 6523500200004101 IFSC:KARB0000652**
4	**1) Mr.Umapathi** S/o Mr.Shivanna H S, **2) Mr.Puneeth H U** S/o Mr.Umapathi, **No.1 & 2 are residing at:** No.41, Anagondanahalli, Rangapura Post, Tiptur-572201. **3) Mr.Renukesh C** S/o Mr.Chandrashekarachar KP, Mathrushree Nilaya, 7th Cross, Vidyanagara, Tiptur-572201. **Loan A/c No.: Term Loan A/c No.7547001800058001**	**Total Rs.15,33,831.84 (Rupees Fifteen Lakhs Thirty Three Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty One and Eighty Four Paise Only) + Future Interest from 04.06.2025 + Penal Charges & Costs**	**26.03.2025 & Constructive**	All that part and parcel of the Residential Property measuring 1,584 Sq.ft, bearing E-Khata No.152500801700920072 (PID No.226) together with building constructed thereon situated at Anagondanahalli, Kasaba Hobli, Tiptur belonging to H S Umapathi. **Bounded by: East:** Road, **West:** Property of Mr.Umapathi, **North:** Property of Mr.Umapathi, **South:** Property of Mr.Umapathi.	**Rs.30,20,400/- (Rupees Thirty Lakh Twenty Thousand Four Hundred Only).**	**Rs.3,02,040/- (Rupees Three Lakh Two Thousand Forty Only)**	**From 1.20 PM to 1.35 PM**	**Rs. 50,000/-**	**Karnataka Bank Ltd Tiptur Main Branch A/c No: 7543500200004101 IFSC:KARB0000754**

(The borrower's/mortgagor's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset).
This Notice shall also serve as Notice under Sub Rule (6) of Rule 8 / Sub Rule (1) of Rule 9 of Security Interest Enforcement Rules-2002 to the Borrower/s/Mortgagor/s/Guarantor/s/ Co-Obligant/s)
For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to link in Karnataka Bank's Website i.e. https://karnatakabank.com.
The E-auction will be conducted through portal https://www.auctionbazaar.com/ on **30.07.2025 at above mentioned time** with unlimited extension of 05 minutes. The intending bidder is required to register their name at **https://www.auctionbazaar.com/** and get the user Id and password free of cost and get training i.e. online training on E-auction (tentatively on **29.07.2025**) from **M/s ARCA EMART PVT LTD**(Known by their **website: www.auctionbazaar.com**) **Contact No. : 8885035382**, E-mail : **contact@auctionbazaar.com and disposal.karnataka@auctionbazaar.com.**

Date : 23.06.2025
Place: Tumakuru

Sd/- Chief Manager & Authorised Officer,
Karnataka Bank Ltd.

Nuclear spectre

Israeli and U.S. actions against Iran amount to nuclear brinkmanship

After a 12-day intense missile barrage and air attacks following Israel's illegal aerial attacks on Iran, the two countries finally announced a ceasefire on Tuesday. Ostensibly conducted as a "pre-emptive" strike on Iran's nuclear facilities, the Israeli attacks graduated into a full-fledged war that also involved U.S. strikes on Iranian nuclear installations. These attacks, in blithely ignoring the dangers of radioactive leakage, and their subsequent responses, point to the stark nature of a fragile international order now threatened by escalating nuclear risks from West Asia to Ukraine and even the Indian subcontinent. The attacks on Iran might have damaged its nuclear installations and, in particular, its uranium enrichment capabilities. Yet, this naked aggression was against a signatory to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and a country that had willingly subjected its facilities to international scrutiny. Iran had also signed the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action with the P5+1 (nuclear-armed states plus Germany) to ensure that its nuclear capabilities remained peaceful, only for it to be rendered meaningless after the U.S. withdrew from it during President Donald Trump's first term. These attacks now create a new dynamic, wherein Iran is compelled to seek nuclear weapons by withdrawing from its commitments – its parliament is now mulling a bill to exit the NPT – and use them as a deterrent. Meanwhile, any step Iran takes to do so could be used to justify further aggression by Israel and the U.S., thereby rejecting international laws and the NPT's nonproliferation norm.

Israel's hypocrisy is stark. It remains a non-signatory to the NPT and refuses any oversight of its undeclared, but known, arsenal. This raises the possibility that it values nuclear weapons not for deterrence but for their destructive potential. U.S. protection emboldens it to pursue destructive policies in Gaza and illegal wars in West Asia. Combined with the Russian threat to use nuclear weapons to deter conventional aggression by NATO following its Ukraine invasion, these actions reveal how the renewed "competition among the great powers" and their cynical understanding of deterrence are dismantling global stability. The idea of nuclear disarmament is in tatters as the nuclear-weapon states continue to expand and modernise their arsenals, while non-proliferation is under threat as other countries turn to nuclear weapons to safeguard themselves. Without a renewed diplomatic impetus to re-establish international norms on conflict, a stronger push for disarmament among all nuclear-armed states, and a firm commitment to uphold the NPT, the world risks sliding into a new era of nuclear brinkmanship that could prove more dangerous than the Cold War's darkest moments.

Woman at the helm

The new IOC president will have to navigate the labyrinth of world sports

The first African and the first woman head of the largest, most powerful sporting organisation on the planet, Kirsty Coventry, 41, broke new ground in more ways than one when she formally took charge of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) on Monday. Also the youngest president since Pierre de Coubertin, the founding father of the modern Olympic Games, and hand-picked by outgoing IOC president Thomas Bach, Kirsty was largely seen as a symbol of continuity with Bach, now IOC honorary president for life, remaining the power centre. But in the last three months since her election, the handover period, those working with her at the IOC headquarters in Lausanne shared the belief that she was her own person. While there is likely to be continuity in some areas, Kirsty's experiences, as a white woman athlete in racially tense Zimbabwe under Robert Mugabe and a Minister in Emmerson Mnangagwa's cabinet, indicate that she is likely to be a lot more consensual and humane when compared to the strict Bach. It means that she is unlikely to rush into decisions on complex issues be it protecting female athletes, transgenders in women's sports, the scourge of doping, the relevance of the Olympic movement, attracting new sponsors and maintaining a balance between traditional competitive sports and experimenting to bring in new audiences, something that has not always worked, as evident with breakdancing in Paris.

Off the field, it will be an eventful eight years for one of Africa's most decorated Olympians. There will be big decisions to make including the possible return of Russia to the Olympic fold. In the run-up to the 2028 Olympics in Los Angeles, she will have to deal with U.S. President Donald Trump a lot more. The political uncertainties and global conflicts will force her to do a lot more than administering only world sports. The Russia-Ukraine war and growing hostilities in West Asia could have a bearing on the hosting rights for the 2036 Olympics, something that also brings Indian interests into the equation. On Monday, IOC member Nita Ambani was among the closest allies of Kirsty during and after the formal ceremony. A two-day closed-door session with IOC members to exchange ideas and opinions will be crucial to gauge initial impressions. The political situation, in the immediate context, may also have a bearing on the possible bids by Qatar and Saudi Arabia, two countries with deeper pockets than any and with growing interest to host the Games. With little experience in navigating the complex administrative labyrinth of world sports, Kirsty would be hoping to make a splash with her dive into the deep end.

A reset in West Asia, a 'de-escalation' for the world

T.S. Tirumurti

is former Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs in-charge, inter alia, of West Asia and former Representative of India to the Palestinian Authority in Gaza

West Asia has been reset with the bombing of Iran by Israel and the United States. It has been done with the tacit or open approval of almost all countries in the region and beyond. The Europeans have been their usual contradictory noisy self, but made no difference to what is unfolding in West Asia. Even Russia and China, which signed, with much fanfare, Comprehensive Strategic Partnership agreements with Iran in January 2025 and March 2021 respectively, were silent spectators. It is not that all these countries were helpless. They made a conscious decision not to interfere when Iran and its proxies are being dismantled in the region.

The reality now

Now with the so-called Iranian nuclear threat being rendered ineffective, West Asia is faced with a sole dominant nuclear power – Israel. The region has 40,000 American troops stationed on its soil in addition to numerous air and sea assets. They will make sure that there is no more military challenge to Israel. West Asia will now live with this reality.

Initially, the Gulf and other countries of West Asia feared, probably rightly, Iran and its proxies as much as the Israelis. The Iranian strategic and military depth in the region, when seen through the prism of its political ideology, made it the predominant threat in the region. In some ways, the presence of an aggressive Iran made the Gulf countries soft pedal, and even make compromises on many other issues which the region has been plagued with, including Palestine. They needed Israel and the U.S. to balance their vulnerability *vis-à-vis* Iran, which only encouraged Israel to go all the way out to dismantle the Iranian proxies, both state and non-state actors, in Lebanon, Syria and Gaza. The threat has receded except perhaps for the Houthis in Yemen and the militias in Iraq. In the meantime, the Gulf countries have been busy building bridges with the U.S. administration and waiting to operationalise Abraham Accords, which normalised their relations with Israel. They have made U.S. President Donald Trump happy by doling out goodies. But, with the cutting down of Iran to size in West Asia, do they relish the prospect of an Israel without any checks? Probably not. Can they do something at least now?

Iran has hit back. Its missiles have targeted U.S. military bases in Qatar – the biggest U.S. base in West Asia with 10,000 personnel, and in Iraq. Iran claimed proportional retaliation in that the number of missiles used was equal to the number of bombs the U.S. used to attack Iran's nuclear facilities. This represented a dangerous escalation, violating the territorial integrity of one of its own "brotherly" countries, Qatar, and with the situation threatening to spiral out of control. The retaliation was not entirely unexpected.

> While the U.S.'s announcement of a ceasefire between Israel and Iran is a surprising voice of reason, for the rest of the world, what matters is only 'de-escalation'

For Iran's leadership, it is an existential crisis. For the Supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, and the leadership, surrendering or keeping quiet in the face of these attacks are not options if they must survive politically.

They know that the end game is regime change to dismantle their theological foundation and political ideology – an ideology which threatens everyone in the region. To that extent, the war with Iran is still a work-in-progress for Israel and the U.S. They will not stop until they do a "Syria" on Iran. But there is no alternate "regime" waiting to take their place. Consequently, for their own good, the Gulf states need to step up now to prevent an Iraq- or a Libya-like collapse, which will destabilise everyone in the region. Destabilising regimes in the region has only given a fillip to Islamic fundamentalism and to terrorist organisations such as the Islamic State and al-Qaeda.

As one spat ends another crisis begins

The dramatic announcement by the U.S. of an immediate ceasefire between Israel and Iran is a surprising voice of reason, at a time when reason has become the biggest casualty in West Asia. After retaliation for the U.S. bombing and proving to the world – and more importantly to its people – that it will not be cowed down, the ceasefire call gives Iran a way out to back down. Let us not forget that Israel too has been hit hard though the western media has played it down. The fact that Iran was ready to hit American bases in the Gulf would have weighed on the U.S. to pressure Israel to stop.

It is also a wakeup call for the Gulf leadership that they are not immune. Hopefully, this should stop Iran from making good on other threats such as closing the Strait of Hormuz or exiting the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. The focus shifts back to the nuclear deal, where both the U.S. and Iran may well be in a mood to find a solution. It is time for the Gulf states to support this process, even if it is late, to save the region from further conflagration.

While this spat sputters to an end, the next crisis in West Asia is in the making. With the long-cherished dream of Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu realised under Mr. Trump – to take out Iran's nuclear programme – his domestic political fortunes have been revived dramatically. There are hardly any obstacles now for him to realise his "Eretz Israel" dream – the promised land from the Jordan river to the Mediterranean Sea. This is the New Middle East map which Mr. Netanyahu waved before the UN General Assembly to 193-member states – a map without Gaza or the West Bank. Israeli plans to annex them very soon and certainly before the U.S. presidential elections in 2026. If his main ultra-right coalition ministerial colleagues Itamar Ben-Gvir and Bezalel Smotrich are to be believed, and there is no reason why they should not be, this annexation will happen this year. All state and non-state actors, which can potentially oppose the move, have been defeated or chastised. The U.S. is also in sync with Mr. Netanyahu in his ambitions. The question will then boil down to these: After its annexation of Palestinian territories, will Israel continue to be an apartheid state by choice to preserve its Jewishness, where the Palestinians will not enjoy equal citizenship and remain second class citizens? Or it will become a genuine democracy by giving the Palestinians equal rights as its Jewish citizens. History indicates that it will be the first.

While the opposition to this annexation should come from countries within the region, the Gulf leadership has almost given up pushing Israel for a Palestinian state or even stopping the Gaza war as the price to pay for regional stability and integration with Israel and the outside world, their noisy protestations within and outside the UN notwithstanding. However, if they think that peace and security will be restored by annexing Palestinian territories or even status quo of occupation retained (56,000 Palestinians have been killed in Gaza, those displaced, face daily threats, starvation and displacement, while people in the West Bank are driven out of their homes to make way for Jewish settlers), they may be forced to rethink their strategy.

India's stand

Expectedly, India has neither made pronouncements on the Israeli preemptive strikes on Iran nor taken an active role – just as it has not in other wars elsewhere. Israel was one of few countries to stand by India during Operation Sindoor. However, India's joint initiatives with Iran, including Chabahar port connectivity, are equally important. India's stakes in the region are high and it is doing all it can to minimise the impact. India has, tongue in cheek, called for a "de-escalation", giving the same advice to warring parties which it received during Operation Sindoor from many parts of the world, asking India and Pakistan to de-escalate. It was a case of equating the aggressor and the aggressed. It matters no more to the world, whether one is right or wrong or whether international law or territorial integrity have been violated, as long as the warring sides "de-escalate".

The need for gender equity in urban bureaucracy

Karthik Seshan

is Senior Manager, Policy and Insights, Janaagraha

India is in the midst of a profound urban transformation. By 2050, over 800 million people, about half the population, will live in cities, making India the largest driver of global urban growth. As cities expand spatially, economically and demographically, they are rewriting the social contract of a modern India and shaping the future of its democracy and development.

In the last three decades, progressive constitutional reforms have advanced gender equity. The 73rd and 74th Amendments mandate 33% reservation for women in Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and Urban Local Governments (ULGs), further strengthened to 50% by 17 States and a Union Territory. Today, women comprise over 46% of local elected representatives (Ministry of Panchayati Raj, 2024), as a rising presence of mayors and councillors.

However, the bureaucratic apparatus that implements their decisions remains overwhelmingly male. While women's representation in grass-root politics has increased, administrative cadres (city managers, planners, engineers, police) exhibit a stark imbalance, limiting the ability of cities to respond equitably to all citizens. As we invest in highways, metros, and smart cities, we overlook a foundational aspect of inclusive development – gender equity in bureaucracy.

The bureaucratic gender gap

Despite more women entering the civil services, the urban administrative architecture remains male-dominated. As of 2022, women constituted just 20% of the Indian Administrative Service (IndiaSpend-2022), with even lower representation in urban planning, municipal engineering and transport authorities. In policing, only 11.7% of the national force are women (Bureau of Police Research and Development-2023), and often confined to desk roles.

This gap is cause for concern. In cities, the engagement of women is different. They rely more on public transport, make multi-stop journeys for work and caregiving, and depend on neighbourhood-level infrastructure. An Institute for Transportation and Development Policy and Safetipin study found that 84% of women in Delhi and Mumbai used public or shared transport; it was 63% for men. Yet, urban planning prioritises mega-projects over safe, accessible, neighbourhood-level mobility. A 2019 Safetipin audit across 50 cities found over 60% of public spaces were poorly lit. With few women in policing, community safety initiatives often fail to resonate with women.

> In India, while women's representation in grass-roots politics has increased, administrative cadres tell a different story

This underrepresentation is not superficial; it affects outcomes. Women officials bring perspectives shaped by lived realities. Studies by the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations and UN Women show that they prioritise water, health and safety, and improve public trust in law enforcement through empathetic enforcement. Gender-sensitive design requires gender-diverse institutions.

Missed opportunity in gender budgeting

Gender-responsive budgeting (GRB), which integrates gender considerations into public finance, is a promising but underutilised tool in India's urban governance. Introduced globally in the 1990s, GRB recognises that budgets are not neutral and can reinforce inequities if left unchecked.

India adopted a Gender Budget Statement in 2005-06, with Delhi, Tamil Nadu and Kerala leading efforts. Delhi has funded women-only buses and public lighting; Tamil Nadu applied GRB across 64 departments in 2022-23, and Kerala embedded gender goals through its People's Plan Campaign. Yet, studies by UN-Women and the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy show that most such efforts suffer from weak monitoring and limited institutional capacities, especially in smaller cities. For many ULGs, GRB remains tokenistic, overlooking essentials such as pedestrian safety or childcare in urban planning.

In contrast, countries such as the Philippines mandate 5% of local budgets for gender programmes; Rwanda integrates GRB into national planning with oversight bodies; Uganda mandates gender equity certificates for fund approvals; Mexico ties GRB to results-based budgeting; and South Africa pilots participatory planning to anchor GRB in lived realities. These are not just fiscal reforms but also a reimagining of citizen-centric governance in cities.

Building inclusive cities requires moving beyond political quotas to ensure women's presence in bureaucracy. This demands systemic reforms in recruitment, retention and promotion across administrative and technical roles. Affirmative action, through quotas and scholarships in planning and engineering, is key to dismantling structural barriers.

Globally, countries as varied as Rwanda, Brazil, and South Korea show the impact of representation. Rwanda boosted maternal health and education spending; Brazil prioritised sanitation and primary health care; South Korea's gender impact assessments reshaped transit and public spaces and Tunisia's parity laws gave women more technical roles, improving focus on safety and health. The Philippines uses gender-tagged budgeting to fund gender-based violence shelters and childcare. Gender-balanced bureaucracies are not about fairness alone. They are essential for building safer, equitable, responsive cities.

The cities we deserve

As India aspires to become a $5 trillion economy, its cities must also aspire to be more than economic growth engines. They must become spaces of inclusion and equity. Gender must be mainstreamed into planning and implementation through mandatory audits, participatory budgeting, and linked evaluation. GRB should be institutionalised across ULGs, supported by targeted capacity-building.

Representation must also translate into agency, and help dismantle glass ceilings. Local gender equity councils and models such as Kudumbashree offer templates, especially for small and transitioning cities. Women are already reshaping governance as elected leaders. They must now shape how cities are planned, serviced and governed. When cities reflect women's lived experiences, they work better for all. To build cities for women, we must start by building cities with women.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Stop and ponder

The conflict in West Asia highlights the urgent need for global diplomacy over destructive warfare. While a ceasefire brings temporary relief, the damage, both human and geopolitical, is deep. World leaders must prioritise dialogue, not destruction, and avoid using nuclear threats. The United Nations and powerful nations should take stronger and neutral steps to prevent future escalations.

Arpita Uplana,
Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh

Junior colleges

There is an urgent need for the reintroduction of junior colleges (classes 11 and 12) in Chennai as a part of educational reforms in Tamil Nadu. With increasing pressure on students to excel in competitive examinations such as the JEE and NEET, the current higher secondary school system fails to offer the specialised focus necessary for students to thrive in their respective fields. In Maharashtra and Telangana, the junior college system has proven successful in allowing students to specialise early in their chosen stream. The current model in Tamil Nadu, which integrates both general schooling and higher secondary education in a single system, limits students' ability to focus on subjects most relevant to their academic careers. The Tamil Nadu government already has a strong educational foundation and a robust schooling system. However, to compete at the national and international levels, it is essential to empower students with the right tools for success.

Vivek M. Jain,
Chennai

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address and the full name.

When counsel is questioned

Rajasekhar V.K.

Practising advocate and a former judicial member of the National Company Law Tribunal

On June 12, the legal community in India was jolted by an extraordinary move. The Enforcement Directorate (ED), while investigating the issue of ESOPs (employee stock ownership plans) to the former chairperson of Religare, summoned senior advocate Arvind Datar, to answer questions about an opinion he gave to Care Health Insurance. When this drew strong protests from the legal fraternity, the ED withdrew it. About a week later, it summoned Pratap Venugopal, another senior advocate. This raises pressing questions about the professional autonomy of legal counsel: can a lawyer be summoned merely for giving advice, without any allegation of collusion?

The core legal issue

Even incorrect legal advice cannot justify summoning an advocate unless there is prima facie evidence of conspiracy. This is not merely about courtesy; it is foundational to the rule of law.

Under the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA), 2023, which replaced the Indian Evidence Act, 1872, communications between legal advisers and their clients are privileged. Section 132 of the BSA protects advocates from being compelled to disclose confidential communications except with the express consent of the client.

In this case, there has been no suggestion, even obliquely, of any inducement or involvement of the senior advocate in the ESOPs issue. Issuing a summons then is not only unwarranted but a misuse of statutory powers. The right to counsel is hollow if lawyers can be dragged into investigations merely for having advised a client. The chilling effect is obvious: few will offer candid advice, especially on sensitive matters.

The Bar Council of India's Rules under the Advocates Act, 1961, say advocates must advise in accordance with the law, without fear or favour. The privilege protecting this function is not personal indulgence; it safeguards the administration of justice.

The summons, even if swiftly retracted, reveal growing unease within the legal fraternity about the creeping encroachment of executive agencies into domains that must remain insulated from investigative whim. At stake is not simply the dignity of particular lawyers, but the institutional equilibrium between the Bar, the bench, and the executive.

In a constitutional democracy, the independence of the legal profession is not merely aspirational; it is structural. Advocates have a duty both to court and to clients. Summoning advocates who have rendered advice, without any allegation of fraud or complicity, seriously undermines that independence.

The strongest rebukes came from the legal fraternity. Bar associations saw this not as an isolated procedural misstep, but as a threat to the integrity of the profession. Today, it is a senior advocate in a corporate context. Tomorrow, it could be a criminal defence lawyer being asked why he advised silence.

Courts have consistently held that advocates must be protected from harassment for discharging professional duties. Wrong legal advice is not evidence of culpability. In the absence of specific statutory override, investigative agencies must respect the boundary between legal advice and culpable conduct. Those who serve the law should never be made to fear it. Yet, the present trend portends just that.

If the act of rendering legal advice, particularly in commercial, regulatory, or politically sensitive contexts, invites investigative scrutiny, the deterrent effect on candid legal counsel will be profound.

> The right to counsel is hollow if lawyers can be dragged into investigations merely for having advised a client

At one level, the damage is psychological: it sows doubt about whether lawyers can safely advise on matters involving statutory discretion or executive action. At another, it encourages self-censorship, deterring independent counsel from cases where that advice may later be questioned not in court, but by an investigative agency. This has consequences for corporate governance, criminal defence, constitutional challenges, and public interest litigation. Over time, the class of advocates willing to act without deference to political or prosecutorial power will shrink. That will weaken not just the Bar, but the rule of law itself. What would remain is a profession that is either silent or pliant. *That* is not a Bar worthy of a constitutional democracy.

Call for restraint and reform

This episode compels a systemic reassertion of the boundaries between legal counsel and executive investigation, especially under coercive statutes such as the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002.

There is an urgent need for judicial clarification – possibly through a declaratory ruling – affirming that lawyers cannot be summoned merely for professional advice, without evidence of unlawful complicity. Such a ruling must reaffirm what is implicit in the constitutional architecture: that legal counsel is protected expression and its downstream use does not make the adviser an accomplice.

Bar Councils too must act. They must assert the Bar's privileges and engage with investigative agencies institutionally to prevent recurrence. Silence will likely be read as acquiescence.

Parliament may consider statutory reinforcement of advocate-client privilege, recognising that a lawyer's role is not inherently suspect, even when misused by a client. Without this, every opinion on a controversial matter may be under the shadow of future suspicion.

The ED may have misread the law. But its decision to withdraw the summons after an outcry revealed that it may still choose to test the limits of professional tolerance. The legal community must draw a line – clearly, constitutionally, unhesitatingly.

The troubled waters of Godavari

The Centre would do well to be unbiased while dealing with inter-State disputes

STATE OF PLAY

B. Chandrasekhar
chandrashekar.bhalki@thehindu.co.in

A fresh row has erupted between Telangana and Andhra Pradesh over the Polavaram-Banakacherla Link Project. The project, which will divert 200 tmc ft of Godavari water to the Krishna and Penna basins, aims to provide drinking and irrigation water to the drought-hit Rayalaseema region of Andhra Pradesh.

The Andhra Pradesh government has already submitted the pre-feasibility report on the project to the Central Water Commission (CWC). The CWC has now asked the State to now furnish a detailed project report (DPR).

In addition, the Centre has offered to fund 50% of the total cost of the project, which is an estimated ₹80,000 crore, as part of the interlinking of rivers; the remaining will be financed through borrowing beyond the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) limits. This has upset Telangana as the Centre had reduced the State's borrowing limits under the FRBM Act citing the State's off-budget borrowings to complete the Kaleshwaram project on time.

Both the Congress, which is in power in Telangana, and the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), which is in the Opposition, believe that the project violates the State's riparian rights regarding Godavari waters as well as the provisions of Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014.

But the two parties are also busy blaming each other for "allowing" Andhra Pradesh to plan the project. The other significant Opposition party in the State – the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) – has remained

largely silent. This is possibly because the BJP government at the Centre has the support of the Telugu Desam Party, the ruling party of Andhra Pradesh. This, the Telangana government believes, has given the Andhra Pradesh government the advantage of getting things done with quick approvals from the Centre.

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and Minister for Irrigation N. Uttam Kumar Reddy squarely blamed the previous BRS government for Andhra Pradesh's decision to take up the Godavari diversion project. They cited the first apex council meeting of September 21, 2016, as evidence. That was when the then Chief Minister, K. Chandrasekhar Rao, had stated that 3,000 tmc ft of Godavari water discharges into the sea on average annually and could instead be utilised if there was an "understanding" between the two States.

The BRS objected to this argument saying Mr. Rao had also "raised objections over the diversion of water from the Godavari to the Krishna without prior consultation of Telangana" during the same apex council meeting.

Former Minister for Irrigation, T. Harish Rao, said that the Congress is deliberately misleading the people. He alleged that Andhra Pradesh was conspiring to divert Godavari waters to claim rights on it in the future by seeking re-allocation of water by the Godavari Water Disputes Tribunal. He termed the Congress government's "soft approach" to the project as a "mortgaging of Telangana's water rights" and said that this was "Mr. Revanth Reddy's 'gurudakshina' to his political mentor N. Chandrababu Naidu". Mr. Rao said that just as the late Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy had diverted Krishna waters from Srisailam to the non-basin (Penna) areas by expanding the Pothireddypadu Head Regulator, now Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu was diverting Godavari waters at the cost of Telangana's riparian rights.

Mr. Naidu emphasised that the project is essential. Arguing that the Godavari has ample surplus water, he asked why Telangana should object to the use of water that was anyway flowing into the sea. The BRS in turn demanded to know why the Andhra Pradesh government had objected to the Kaleshwaram project if ample water was indeed available in the Godavari.

The President of the Telangana Retired Engineers' Association, M. Shyamprasad Reddy, suggested that the Centre carry out the appraisal of the Polavaram-Banakacherla Link Project only after protecting the rights of the people of Telangana by giving permissions/clearances/approvals to all the ongoing and contemplated projects in the Godavari basin. The former chief engineer also suggested that the Centre additionally allocate more than 200 tmc ft of water in the Krishna basin in lieu of the diversion of Godavari water to other basins.

Water-sharing is a sensitive issue and is linked to the economy and regional sentiments. The Centre would do well to be as unbiased as possible when dealing with inter-State water disputes.

Two billion people don't have safe drinking water

For billions, this can mean hours spent collecting water. For almost a million, it means dying from disease

DATA POINT

Hannah Ritchie

In the time it would take me to write the next sentence, I could get up, walk to the kitchen, and pour myself a glass of clean water. I've never had to worry about whether that water would make me sick. Almost six billion other people in the world share this reality. They have safe drinking water in their homes.

That still leaves two billion people without. If people don't have safe water, what are they drinking? Before we get into it, it is important to understand how levels of drinking water services are defined and how many people fall on each 'rung' of the ladder. This is summarised in **Chart 1.**

For someone to have 'safe drinking water', their water source needs to meet three criteria: it needs to be free from contamination, located at home, and available whenever needed. Again, this is the reality for almost six billion people. So, what are the other two billion drinking? If you had asked me in the past, I might have guessed that they were collecting water from streams or lakes. The world was binary: you either had safe piped water or were collecting it from a river. But that is not the reality: only around 156 million people get their water this way (1.4% of the global population).

Around three-quarters of the two billion people do have access to a piped water source or protected well that is probably safe to drink. But it is either not located in their home, is not always available, or there is no guarantee it is completely contamination-free. That usually means they must travel to get there.

'Safe drinking water' became the main indicator of progress on clean water only in 2017. Before that, the focus was on the number of people who had access to an 'improved water source'. An improved water source can potentially deliver safe water: it is a protected pipe, spring, borehole, or other system that probably delivers safe water. The problem is that it doesn't guarantee the water is safe at the point of consumption. Imagine you collect a bucket of water from a pipe an hour from home. It might be safe when you collect it, but once you have trekked back and left it sitting in the heat for the rest of the day, there is no guarantee that it is free of pathogens when you drink it the next morning.

That is the key point here. 95% of the world uses an improved water supply. As **Map 2** shows, the majority in every country does, even in the poorest countries. Many countries have rapidly increased this share in the last few decades. In **Chart 3**, you can see the change in the share of the population with improved water across countries income-wise.

Countries can quickly increase access to a (probably) clean piped, spring, or borehole source. The biggest challenge is getting those pipes into each individual household and making sure that the source is completely contamination-free. This often means expanding a single community-shared pipe into a whole water network. But to get universal access to safe drinking water, this is what the world will need to do.

Unsafe water leads to more than 8,00,000 deaths every year. This is because it can lead to the spread of diarrheal diseases, such as cholera or dysentery, and other diseases, including polio and hepatitis. It can also lead to malnutrition, which is attributed to half of all childhood deaths.

These deaths tend to be concentrated in lower-income countries where fewer people have safe water to drink. In some of the worst-off countries, more than 5% of all deaths are attributed to unsafe water.

Water woes

The charts are sourced from "Two billion people don't have safe drinking water: what does this really mean for them?", published at OurWorldinData.org (OWID). The text on the left is an abridged version of the story that appeared on OWID

Chart 1: The safe drinking water ladder that explains where people get their water from

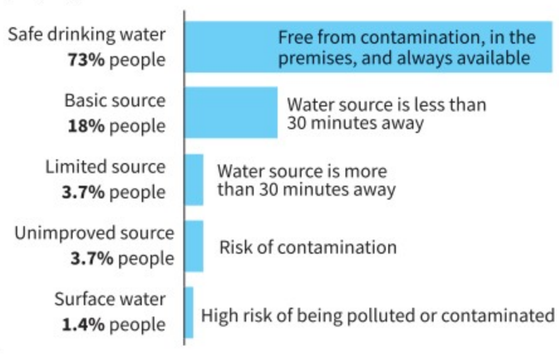
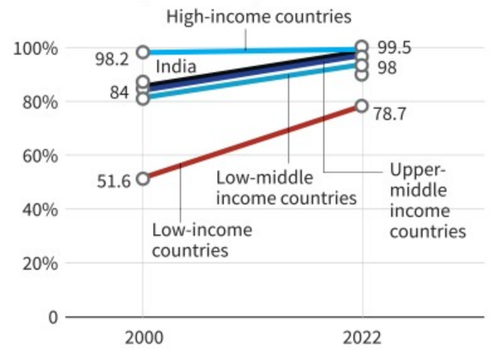
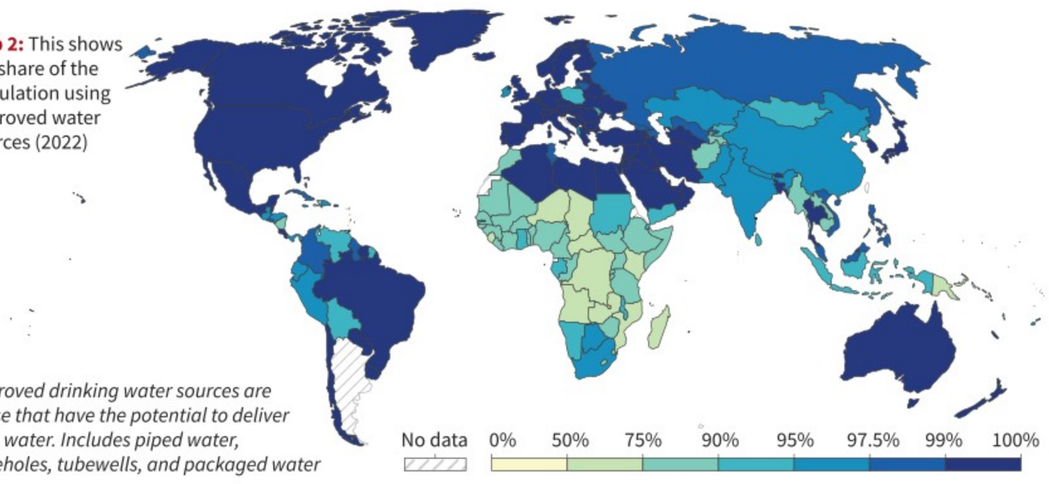


Chart 3: The share of the population using improved water sources (2000 to 2022)



Map 2: This shows the share of the population using improved water sources (2022)



Improved drinking water sources are those that have the potential to deliver safe water. Includes piped water, boreholes, tubewells, and packaged water

Hannah Ritchie is the Deputy Editor and science outreach lead at Our World in Data

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 25, 1975

Gold bank on model of unit trust suggested

Bombay, June 24: Mr. Shantilal Sonawala, President of the Bombay Bullion Association, told pressmen here to-day that a "gold bank" should be set up to mobilise the stock of gold.

He said that the gold bank could be run on the model of the Unit Trust. It could issue a certificate of unit expressed in terms of the quantity of gold deposited with the bank.

"The unit may be say 10 gms of gold. One can purchase this unit against deposit of gold. The bank is under obligation to return this gold either on demand or after a stipulated period as may be discussed and finalised," he suggested.

"When the bank accumulates such gold, it deposits the same with the Central Bank here in India with the Reserve Bank and gets a loan on liberal terms. The bank invests this loan money in securities, shares or other productive investments on the line of the Unit Trust of India to get a fair return on such capital. The bank declares the dividend to its gold depositors from such earnings," he added.

Mr. Sonawala also wanted the Government of India to formulate a policy for exporting gold.

From statistics available, he said, India had a stock of 4,500 tonnes equivalent to 144 million ounces of gold valued at Rs. 22,000 crores.

As regards the export of silver, Mr. Sonawala said that about 150 million ounces of silver had been exported out of India till the end of 1974. The figure included official as well as unofficial exports. Thus they had been left with a stock of about 2,600 million ounces of silver.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JUNE 25, 1925

International Railway Congress

London, June 24: At the International Railway Congress, Major General Freeland said the experience in India showed that light railways were necessary for opening up the country, but he thought there was little chance of development at present, unless the cost of material and labour were reduced. Heavy lines were at about the limit of development under the existing conditions and the best way to secure increased traffic was the building of more feeder lines.

From Page One

Israel-Iran ceasefire is 'in effect', says Trump

"If the Zionist regime does not violate the ceasefire, Iran will not violate it either," the Iranian President said during a phone conversation with Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim, according to the President's office.

Iran's *Press TV* said the ceasefire came into effect after Tehran fired multiple missile barrages at Israel. "The military operations of our powerful Armed Forces to punish Israel for its aggression continued until the very last minute," Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi wrote in a social media post.

Iran's nuclear chief Mohammad Eslami said the country was assessing the damage to its nuclear industry and that "arrangements have been made for its restoration," according to the state-owned *Mehr News*."The plan is to prevent interruptions in the process of production and services," said Mr. Eslami.

Mr. Trump, however, wrote, again all capital letters, "Iran will never rebuild their nuclear facilities." "Both Israel and Iran wanted to stop the war, equally. It was my great honor to Destroy All Nuclear Facilities and capability, and then STOP THE WAR!" he wrote in another post.

Mr. Trump was visibly angry with Israel's action and he expressed his frustration in no uncertain terms. "I am not happy that Israel is going out now," he told presspersons at the White House as Israeli jets were carrying out the strike. "There was one rocket that I guess was fired overboard [by Iran]. It was after the time limit, and it missed its target. And now Israel's going out. These guys gotta calm down. Ridiculous...," he said.

"I did not like plenty of things I saw yesterday," he said. "I did not like the fact that Israel unloaded right after we made the deal. They did not have to unload... The [Iranian] retaliation was very strong. But in all fairness, Israel unloaded a lot," Mr. Trump added. "We basically have two countries that have been fighting so long and so hard that they do not know what the f**k they are doing."

After Israeli jets returned home, the tension eased with the fragile ceasefire taking hold.

Railways considers hike in fares from July 1

M. Jamshed, former Member (Traffic), Railway Board, said an increase of one to two paise was a rationalisation that was long overdue. "This hike shall contribute to an additional ₹1,500 crore to ₹1,600 crore in passenger revenues. Similar fare hikes took place in 2013, 2014, and 2020," Mr. Jamshed told *The Hindu*.

He said that even after the fare increase, financial sustainability of the Railways would be under challenge. "The financial year 2024-25 has closed with total earnings below the budgetary estimates. Passenger revenue did increase to ₹75,457 crore, but remained below the Budgetary Estimates of ₹80,000 crore. With freight incremental loading of 26 million tonnes, from 1,591 million tonnes to 1,617 million tonnes, the revenue generation was marginal," Mr. Jamshed said.

"Aggressive marketing of freight services and a fare hike to reach a level of break-even in next five years could be the survival strategy for Indian Railways," he said.

Had invited Rahul for talks over voter rolls: EC

"We presume that any issue regarding conduct of elections would have already been raised through election petitions filed in the competent court of law by the [Indian National Congress] INC candidates. However, if you still have any issues," the letter had said.

The Congress leader, along with allied parties, has raised these concerns about the Maharashtra election time and again, last in articles published in various languages on June 7.

EC sources said that, following the June 7 articles, the poll body wrote to Mr. Gandhi on June 12.

Mr. Gandhi had shared a media report, in a post on X on Tuesday, which claimed that in the six months between the 2024 Lok Sabha election and the Maharashtra Assembly poll, Nagpur South West – the seat held by BJP leader and Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis – added 29,219 new voters.

"In Maharashtra CM's own constituency, the voter list grew by 8% in just 5 months. Some booths saw a 20-50% surge. [Booth level officers] BLOs reported unknown individuals casting votes," he said. "That's why we demand the immediate release of machine-readable digital voter rolls and CCTV footage," he added.

In a post on X, the Chief Electoral Office in Maharashtra pointed out that, as already stated by the ECI, electoral rolls are shared with all recognised political parties.

Meanwhile, terming Mr. Gandhi's claims a 'bunch of lies', Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said that there were over 25 constituencies in the State where voters had increased by more than 8% between the Lok Sabha and Assembly elections, most of which the Congress had won.

He cited the examples of west Nagpur and north Nagpur, which the Congress won and which saw a 7% surge in voters, and also pointed to constituencies won by the Congress's allies where voters had increased by 9% to 11%.

No alternative to dialogue, diplomacy, says India

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

India on Tuesday welcomed reports of a ceasefire between Israel and Iran, calling for "sustained peace and stability" in the region.

"While we remain deeply concerned about the prospects for overall and sustained regional security and stability, we welcome reports of a ceasefire between Iran and Israel and the role played by the U.S. and Qatar in bringing it about," the External Affairs Ministry said in a statement, hours after U.S. President Donald Trump announced the ceasefire.

In a telephone conversation with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian on June 22, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had called for "immediate de-escalation".

"We wish to reiterate that there is no alternative to dialogue and diplomacy in order to address and resolve the multiple conflicts in the region. India stands ready to play its part in these efforts and hopes that all concerned parties will work towards sustained peace and stability," the External Affairs Ministry said.

India to 'gradually' wind up evacuation from Israel and Iran

Indian Embassy shuts help desk in Iran's Mashhad following ceasefire; process of closing evacuations will remain for two days to assess ceasefire

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Responding to the news of Israel-Iran ceasefire, the Indian Embassy in Iran closed the help desk in Mashhad, which oversaw the process of hundreds of Indian citizens being repatriated since the West Asian conflict erupted on June 13.

The Embassy announced on Tuesday that the evacuation process initiated under Operation Sindhu was being wrapped up as the ceasefire had come into effect.

"Since there has been an announcement of ceasefire, the Embassy is gradually winding up the evacuation exercise initiated during the military conflict in Iran," said the Embassy in Tehran.

"If any Indian citizens need any advice or assistance, or have any other special needs, they may contact the Embassy through the Telegram channel or on the helplines provided earlier. These communication channels will be open for the next few days," the Indian embassy said.

Home-bound: Indian nationals from Israel aboard an Indian Air Force C-17 aircraft. @IAF_MCC/X

Further, the process of closing down the evacuation process from Iran will remain in place for two more days to evaluate the ceasefire between Israel and Iran.

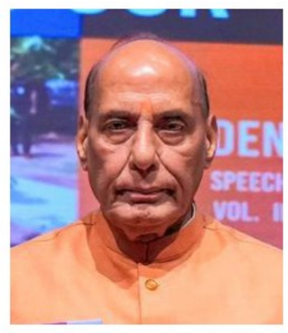
2,295 Indians evacuated

The embassy also advised Indians planning to proceed to Mashhad for evacuation to remain where they are in view of the ceasefire that was announced by U.S. President Donald Trump. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Tuesday said 2,295 Indian nationals had been evacuated from Iran. About 292 Indian nationals arrived here from Mashhad early on Tuesday in a special flight, said MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal.

More than 400 Indians from Israel arrived here on two special flights on Tuesday. "About 594 Indians have returned so far from Israel as part of Operation Sindhu," said Mr. Jaiswal.

Rajnath Singh likely to discuss regional peace at SCO meet

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI



Rajnath Singh

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will lead a high-level Indian delegation at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Defence Ministers' Meeting to be held at Qingdao, China from June 25 to 26.

The Defence Ministers are expected to discuss a number of issues, including regional and international peace and security, counterterrorism efforts and cooperation among the Ministries of Defence of SCO member states.

Mr. Singh is expected to highlight India's continued commitment to the principles and mandate of the SCO, outline India's vision towards achieving greater international peace and security, call for joint and consistent efforts to eliminate terrorism and extremism in the region, and stress the need for greater trade, economic cooperation and connectivity within the SCO. He will also hold bilateral meetings with the Defence Ministers of some participating countries, including China and Russia, on the sidelines of the meeting.

India attaches special importance to SCO in promoting multi-lateralism, political, security, economic and people-to-people interactions in the region. The SCO pursues its policy based on the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity of nations, non-interference in internal affairs, mutual respect, understanding and equality of all member states.

The SCO is an inter-governmental organisation established in 2001. India became a full member in 2017 and assumed its rotating Chairmanship in 2023. The SCO membership includes Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Iran and Belarus, besides India. China has assumed the Chair of the SCO for 2025 under the theme "Upholding the Shanghai Spirit: SCO on the Move".

Centre gives nod for defence procurement worth ₹2,000 crore

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

In a significant move to strengthen the Army's operational readiness in counterterrorism (CT) operations, the Defence Ministry has concluded 13 contracts under the Emergency Procurement (EP) mechanism. These contracts, amounting to ₹1,981.9 crore, have been finalised against an overall sanctioned outlay of ₹2,000 crore for the Army.

Executed through fast-track procedures under the EP mandate, the procurement aims to enhance situational awareness, lethality, mobility, and protection for troops deployed in CT environments.

The acquisitions were completed within compressed timelines to ensure rapid capability augmentation.

Key equipment being procured includes Integrated Drone Detection and Interdiction Systems, Low Level Lightweight Radars, Very Short Range Air Defence Systems - Launchers and Missiles, Remotely Piloted Aerial Vehicles, Loitering Munitions, including Vertical Take-Off and Landing systems, various categories of drones, Bullet Proof Jackets, Ballistic Helmets, Quick Reaction Fighting Vehicles – Heavy and Medium, Night Sights for Rifles.

The EP route continues to be a key enabler in bridging urgent capability gaps and ensuring timely induction of vital operational equipment.

'Operation Sindoor showed India's uncompromising anti-terror policy'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Operation Sindoor clearly demonstrated India's firm and uncompromising policy against terrorism on the global stage, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Tuesday, affirming that no shelter was safe for terrorists who spilt the blood of Indian citizens.

"Today's India takes decisions based solely on what is right for national interest," Mr. Modi said, adding that India's dependence on foreign nations for military needs is steadily decreasing as the country is becoming self-reliant in the defence sector.

The Prime Minister noted that this shift was evident during Operation Sindoor, where the armed forces forced the "enemy into surrendering within 22 minutes using domestically manufactured weapons". In the days ahead, "Made-in-India" weapons will earn global recognition and acclaim, he said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi offers a floral tribute to Sree Narayana Guru in New Delhi on Tuesday. PMO

Historic conversation

He was speaking at an event marking the centenary celebration of the conversation between Sree Narayana Guru and Mahatma Gandhi at Sivagiri Math in Varkala, Kerala, on March 12, 1925. The meeting "remains inspirational and relevant even today, and serves as a powerful source of energy for social harmony and for collective goals of a developed India," Mr. Modi said. "The ideals of Sree Narayana Guru are a great asset to all of humanity," he added.

'Mantra of unity'

His mantra – "*Oru Jati, Oru Matham, Oru Daivam, Manushyanum* [One caste, one religion, one God for mankind]" – reflected the unity of all humanity and all living beings, a philosophy that formed the foundation of India's civilisational ethos, he said.

"Sree Narayana Guru envisioned a society free from discrimination, Today, the country is eliminating every possibility of discrimination by following a saturation approach," the Prime Minister said, highlighting his government's welfare programmes to benefit millions of poor people, Dalits, tribals, and women.

Businessline conclave to celebrate MSMEs' role in India's growth story

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

To celebrate the work of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), *The Hindu Businessline* is hosting its annual MSME conclave. The fourth edition, to be held in two cities, Bengaluru (June 25) and Coimbatore (June 27), will discuss their contribution to India's growth story.

The first event at Bengaluru, presented in association with NITTE (deemed-to-be university), will feature two power-packed panel discussions – one on defence titled "MSME: Call to Arms (Supplying to Defence)" and the other on "Powering Make in India" – and a fireside chat.

MSME Day is observed world over annually on June 27 to celebrate these enterprises and recognise their importance, shed light on their contributions, and promote their growth and sustainability.

At the Bengaluru conclave, Priyank Kharge, Minister for Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, IT and BT of Karnataka, will be the chief guest. The Guest of Honour is Ananth Narayanan, Founder and CEO, Mensa Brands.

The first panel, "MSMEs: Call to Arms (Supplying to Defence)", will feature Navneet Singh, CEO, Kepler Aero; Priyanka Singhal, Founder, CEO, Ammunic Systems; Lt. Col. Velan (retd.), CEO, Elena Geo; Commander LSS Narendra (retd.), COO and Promoter, C2C Advanced Systems. The session will be moderated by Venkatesha Babu, Resident Editor, *The Hindu Businessline*.

The second panel, "MSMEs: Powering Make in India," will have Rajeev Kaul, MD, Aequs Ltd; Vijay Peri, Vice-President, India Industrials, Zetwerk Manufacturing Businesses; Digbijoy Nath, Co-founder, CTO, Agnit; Sumeet B Patil, Head, Operations, Ethereal Machines. This session will be moderated by M. Ramesh, Consulting Editor, *The Hindu Businessline*.

The fireside chat with Srinivasagopalan Rangarajan, Chairman and Managing Director, Data Patterns (India) Ltd, will be hosted by Raghuvir Srinivasan, Editor, *The Hindu Businessline*.

The past three years too, on MSME Day, *Businessline* had hosted similar conclaves, which saw the participation of many from this sector.With a vast network comprising approximately 6.3 crore MSMEs, this sector generates employment opportunities for around 11 crore people.

The conclave is brought in association with NITTE deemed-to-be-university, and supported by associate partners NABARD, Canara Bank, Karnataka Soaps and Detergents Ltd, SSVM Institutions Coimbatore, Tally, Karnataka Milk Federation, Mysore Sales International Ltd, Milky Mist, Karnataka Udyog Mitra, Government of Karnataka, and Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board, Government of Karnataka. Office space partner is Puravankara, Insight partner is Trans Union CIBIL, and Industry partner FICCI Karnataka.

Live stream: *https://thbl.news/BLMSMEBL*

PM calls Mauritius counterpart, invites him to visit India

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke with his Mauritius counterpart Navinchandra Ramgoolam and reiterated India's commitment to the development priorities of Mauritius. During a phone call on Tuesday, Mr. Modi invited Mr. Ramgoolam to visit India and reiterated the principle of MAHASAGAR that he had presented during his visit to Mauritius.

"Emphasising the special and unique ties between India and Mauritius, the two leaders reaffirmed their shared commitment to further deepen the Enhanced Strategic Partnership between the two countries. They discussed the ongoing cooperation across a broad range of areas, including development partnership, capacity building, and defence," the Centre said.

APPEAL

Thavamani is 28 years old suffering from "Acute Myeloid Leukemia". He is advised to undergo Chemotherapy and Allogenic Bone Marrow Transplantation at **Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research** Centre, Madurai. The total expenditure is Rs 16,00,000/-. He is from a very poor family and cannot afford this huge cost. Please help him to undergo the treatment. Donations sent by Ch/D.D. favouring **Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai will be acknowledged.** The donations sent through Ch/D.D/M.O/NEFT Transfer & Google Pay (Canara Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/C.No: 60182010063310, IFSC No: CNRB0016018) favouring **WOMEN'S WELFARE SYNDICATE** is exempted under 80G IT. Your e-mail ID is requested.

All correspondence is done through **WWS,** Regd Public Charitable Trust, **Flat No. GF 1, Corddel Apartments, O.No.13, N.No.29, Pycrofts Garden Lane, Chennai-600006. Ph:044-42137401/31523781/7338978027.**

E-Mail ID: womenswelfaresyndicate@gmail.com.

Website: WWW.womenswelfaresyndicate.org.

WWS

Congress slams PM's silence on Gaza issue

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Asserting Prime Minister Narendra Modi's silence on Israel's "genocide" in Gaza, the Congress on Tuesday said that it had diminished India's moral and political standing.

Congress general secretary (communications) Jairam Ramesh noted that President Donald Trump had announced a ceasefire in relation to the U.S.-Israel war on Iran.

"But there is still no ceasefire in Gaza where the Israel genocide continues unabated," Mr. Ramesh said in a post on social media platform X.

'Moral standing'

"Prime Minister Modi's silence on this catastrophe that has overtaken the Palestinians for well over eighteen months is deafening and has diminished India's moral and political standing," the Congress leader added.

His remarks come days after Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi, in an article published in *The Hindu*, criticised India's silence on Israel's devastation in Gaza and Iran as "not just a loss of its voice, but also a surrender of values".

Why no FIR yet against Justice Varma, ask MPs on law panel

They urge Centre to seek review of 1991 judgment which says CJI must be consulted before criminal charges are registered against a higher court judge; they seek legislation on service rules governing judiciary, with a provision for suspension

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

Over three months after "unaccounted-for cash" was recovered from Justice Yashwant Varma's Delhi residence, no FIR has been filed against the judge. On Tuesday, a group of MPs at a meeting of the parliamentary panel on Law and Justice demanded a reason for the lapse. The MPs are from both the Opposition and the ruling party.

The MPs also urged the government to file a review petition to revisit the 1991 K. Veeraswami judgement of the Supreme Court, which states that the Chief Justice of India must be consulted before a criminal case can be registered against any higher court judge.

The panel members' demand comes days after similar remarks from Rajya Sabha Chairman and Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar. Terming the 1991 judgment a "judicial legerdemain", Mr. Dhankhar had said the genesis of the problem of corruption in the judiciary lay in the K. Veeraswami judgment.

Unaccounted-for cash was found at Justice Yashwant Varma's Delhi residence in March after a fire broke out there. FILE PHOTO

Unaccounted-for cash was found at Justice Yashwant Varma's Delhi residence in March after a fire. An in-house inquiry committee constituted by the Chief Justice of India concluded that the currency notes "seen and found during the process of dousing of fire" were "highly suspicious items" and not of small value.

They could not have been placed in the storeroom without the tacit or active consent of Justice Varma or his family, the report submitted.

Given this report, the panel members asked why the logical next steps, of filing an FIR and initiating investigations, had not been taken. After the cash recovery, Justice Varma was repatriated to his parent court, the Allahabad High Court. He has denied the charges against him.

The MPs also urged the government to bring in comprehensive legislation on service rules governing the judiciary, with a provision for suspension. "No action has been taken against the recovery of burnt cash. The accused continues to draw a salary, benefiting from the exchequer, and still enjoys protection extended to the judiciary," one member said, speaking on condition of anonymity. The matter of impeachment rests with Parliament, other MPs said, but insisted that in cases like these, there should be immediate action taken. The MPs also asked for details on pending complaints against the judiciary.

The members batted for legislative backing for a code of conduct for the judiciary. "The 'Restatement of Values of Judicial Life', adopted by the Supreme Court of India in 1997, is the only available guideline. But it remains alive only on paper. For example, it says that the judges must declare their assets, but it was only recently that it was done," another MP said.

Post-retirement jobs

The MPs also emphasised that there should be strict rules governing judges taking post-retirement jobs. Justices in the higher judiciary should not take up government assignments till a period of five years after retirement, the members said.

The panel is also of the opinion that the Supreme Court Registrar should be consulted on the issue. Sources said that the Justice Secretary – who made a presentation on 'Judicial processes and their reform', about a Code of Conduct for judges in the higher courts, and the thorny issue of post-retirement assignments by judges – was asked to prepare a comprehensive report on the issues raised and present it at the next panel meeting.

The committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice is headed by BJP MP Brij Lal. Its key members include former Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi, who is a nominated MP, former Minister of State for Law P.P. Chaudhary, Trinamool Congress MPs Sukhendu Sekhar Ray and Kalyan Banerjee, the Congress's Vivek Tankha, and the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam's P. Wilson and A. Raja. Mr. Gogoi, the former CJI, did not attend Tuesday's meeting.

INBRIEF

EC orders special revision of electoral rolls in Bihar

The Election Commission on Tuesday issued instructions for holding Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls in Bihar. The last intensive revision for Bihar was conducted in 2003. Booth Level Officers will conduct a house-to-house survey for verification during the intensive revision. The objective of the revision is to ensure that the names of all eligible citizens are included in the roll to enable them to exercise their franchise; no ineligible voter is included and also to introduce complete transparency in the process of addition or deletion of electors in the electoral rolls, the poll body said.

Uttarakhand BJP issues notice to ex-MLA Suresh Rathore

Days after former MLA and BJP leader Suresh Rathore publicly announced marrying his long-time partner, Urmila Sanawar, without divorcing his wife Ravindra Kaur, the Uttarakhand unit of BJP on Monday issued a notice seeking his reply for the 'indiscipline'. Mr. Rathore's alleged 'second marriage' came at a time when the State adopted Uniform Civil Code (UCC) earlier this year which has strict rules for matrimonial relationships. BJP spokesperson Manvir Chauhan told *The Hindu* that the party had issued notice to Mr. Rathore after observing his undignified behaviour. It had directed him to submit a written explanation within seven days.

Emergency was bid to end multi-party democracy, says Shah

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Tuesday that a country cannot develop if it is made to follow a single ideology or a single leader and leaves no scope for diverse opinions and ideas.

He added that the foundations of democracy are so deep in India that if any dictator tries to shake it, he will do nothing but ruin his future.

Speaking at an event marking 50 years after the Emergency, Mr. Shah said that was the name of the "conspiracy" to convert a multi-party democracy into a "dictatorship by one person", which was strongly opposed by many people at that time, even at the cost of personal loss. It was not a result of circumstances and compulsion but a product of dictatorial mentality and hunger for power, he said.

The Constitution has strengthened democracy and India is a land of people that has respected diversity for thousands of years, the Home Minister said at the event, organised by the Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Trust.

The Union government has decided to commemorate 'Samvidhan Hatya Diwas' so that the country can remember the terrible consequences that ensue when a government becomes dictatorial, Mr. Shah said. Though the Emergency was imposed citing the security of the nation, its main purpose was to ensure the protection of power, he said.

'Presented our views with evidence': Congress distances itself from Tharoor's remarks on PM

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Lok Sabha member and senior Congress leader Shashi Tharoor's opinion about Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "energy and dynamism becoming a prime asset for India on global stage" is his personal view and does not reflect the party's view, the Congress said on Tuesday.

It reiterated that the Narendra Modi government's foreign policy had completely "fallen flat".

"That may be his [Mr. Tharoor's] opinion but that is not the Congress party's view. It is not the Congress view since we have presented our views with evidence and proof," Supriya Shrinate, who heads the Congress's social media department, told pressperson.

> At a time when we need large nations to stand with us, U.S. is issuing travel advisories against us and citing incidents that pertain to the rest of the world...this maligns us, what is govt. doing about it?
>
> **SUPRIYA SHRINATE**
> Congress leader

In an opinion piece published in *The Hindu* on Monday, Mr. Tharoor, who had headed a parliamentary group for global outreach after the Pahalgam terror attack, lauded Mr. Modi's approach.

Cites U.S. advisory

Addressing a press conference here, Ms. Shrinate said the reality of India's foreign policy was that the U.S. had issued a travel advisory of Level 2 and advised its women, especially, not to travel alone to India, citing various cases of rapes.

"It also goes on to say that various kinds of crimes, incidents of violence and terror attacks can happen in India. It very categorically mentions that American officials will need permission from the government before their travel to India... This kind of advisory is being issued for India, which will have far-reaching impact on our standing," she said.

Ms. Shrinate said such an advisory "maligns" the country, and urged the government to register its protest and take up the matter at the highest level.

'Meal with Trump'

"However, nothing of this kind of advisory has been issued for Pakistan, which is a terror country, housing terrorists such as Masood Azhar, Hafiz Saeed, Dawood Ibrahim, etc., they are being provided protection by Pakistan. On the contrary, an advisory is being issued against us while Pakistan's Army Chief Asim Munir is being invited to enjoy a meal with U.S. President Donald Trump, who has, in turn, hyphenated India and Pakistan," Ms. Shrinate added.

The Congress leader said it was highly objectionable that the Indian Prime Minister and Pakistan's Army Chief were being hyphenated.

"From enforceable hugs to 'Howdy Modi', 'Namaste Trump', and '*Ab Ki Baar* Trump *Sarkaar*', to going to the U.S. uninvited. He has done everything possible, and look at what America is doing to us," she said.

"At a time when we need large nations of the world to stand with us, America is issuing travel advisories against us and citing incidents that pertain to the rest of the world. But this really maligns us, and what is the government doing about it? Absolutely nothing. Pin drop silence like always," the Congress leader added.

RS verifying signatures for Judge Yadav's removal notice

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Rajya Sabha Secretariat has verified the signatures of 44 out of the 55 MPs who endorsed a notice seeking the removal of Allahabad High Court judge Shekhar Yadav for his alleged "hate speech", while senior advocate Kapil Sibal and nine other MPs are yet to complete the verification process.

Mr. Sibal, who has vocally demanded early action on the motion, said he had not received any communication from the Secretariat. However, the Secretariat has maintained that emails were sent to him on three occasions.

"The House Chairman should either accept or reject the notice, not delay the process," Mr. Sibal said.

Himachal Police Bill gets President's approval

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

President Droupadi Murmu has given assent to a Bill passed by the Himachal Pradesh Assembly, which shields public servants from arrest without government sanction.

The Himachal Pradesh Police (Amendment) Bill, 2024 was passed by the Congress-ruled Assembly on December 20, 2024. The Bill was opposed by BJP members in the Assembly on the grounds that it would protect corrupt government officials.

Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu has said that the amendment was being brought "to enable public servants to discharge their duties fearlessly", and the Bill proposed to grant them protection from arrest.

CGHS Directorate pulled up by PAC for not revising drug procurement policy

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

MPs raise concerns over supply of outdated drugs, delays in claim settlement

The Parliament's Public Accounts Committee (PAC), headed by Congress leader K.C. Venugopal, pulled up the Directorate of the Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) for ignoring repeated recommendations by the panel to take various steps to improve its services, including periodically revising its drug procurement policy.

Sources said Union Health Secretary Punya Salila Srivastava told the panel that the government was in the process of revising the rate list for various treatments, adjusting to the current rate of inflation. Several hospitals have pulled out of the scheme due to the low rates sanctioned by the CGHS for various medical procedures.

The PAC was reviewing the 2022 performance audit report of the Comptroller and Auditor General on the subject 'Procurement and Supply of Drugs in CGHS'. The report had pointed out that the Ministry had not ensured the drug formulary was periodically revised, and as a result, the CGHS could not buy new drugs.

Tenders for rate contracts for drugs listed in the formulary were not processed in an efficient and timely manner by the Medical Stores Organisation. In absence of rates for drugs, the CGHS could not procure drugs listed in the formulary. The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) had recommended the drug formulary be revised on a half-yearly basis.

Mr. Venugopal asked why the Ministry had ignored repeated directions from the panel on the issue. At Tuesday's meeting, members raised concerns over the supply of outdated drugs to beneficiaries, delays in the settlement of claims, and the absence of coverage for the latest medical procedures.

The Health Secretary, according to sources, said that the government was in the process of upgrading the policies governing medical procedures, widening them in both scope and scale.

HITES
HLL INFRA TECH SERVICES LTD
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
HITES on behalf of MoHFW, GOI invites online tenders for selection of contractor for Design, Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) including Operation & Maintenance of Tertiary Level CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear) Medical Management Centre with Bone Marrow Transplant Centre at Chengalpattu Medical College, Chengalpattu, Tamil Nadu. Estimated cost **Rs.111Cr**. For details visit https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app and www.hllhites.com/tenders .
VP (ID), HITES South Operations

READ SPORTSTAR
EVERY FORTNIGHT.
TO SUBSCRIBE, VISIT
www.thehindugroup.in/subscribe

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Parishad
Vikas Bhawan, Sector- 19, Nava Raipur
Atal Nagar, Chhattisgarh

The application was invited by the Government of Chhattisgarh, Panchayat and Rural Development Department by issuing advertisement for the contractual post of the Director, Social Audit Unit, in respect of which the applications received have been listed. The detailed description of which can be seen in www.cgstate.gov.in and mgnrega.cg.nic.in. **In case of any objection in this regard, applications can be submitted by speed post / registered post on 11/07/2025 till 5:00 pm.**

Commissioner
Samvad-44309/3 **Mahatma Gandhi NREGS**

Muncipial Council, Kekri (Ajmer)
E-NOTICE INVITING BID

Municipal Council , Kekri invites competitive Tenders/bids online as per details as under from reputed contractors registered in related class in L.S.G.D. Rajasthan and central/state government departments and Private Limited Company. The bid shall only be submitted through online tendering system of www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in.The interested Bidders shall have to be enrolled/registered with portal of www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in for participating in the bid process.

1.	Name & Address of procuring Entity	Commissioner, Municipal Council Kekri
2.	Subject matter of procurement	Door To Door Municipal Solid Waste Collection, Segration,Monitoring and Transportation of Segregated MSW to Processing Site" under NGT and SBM Guidline .
3.	Estimated procurement cost	**INR. 221.76 Lakh**
4.	Bid procedure	Single stage tender (eg.Single stage two part envelop) Open competitive e-bid procedure at **www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in.**
5.	Pre Bid Meeting	
6.	Start/End Date for bid applying and bid submission	Start Date:24.06.25 from 4.00 PM onwords End Date :14.07.25 Up to 4.00 P.M..
7.	Date/Time of Technical Bid Opening.	16.07.2025 at.4.00 P.M.
8.	Date/Time of Financial bid Opening.	Will be opened on qualified technical/potential bidders.
9	Bid Validity	120 Days from date of opening.
10.	Completion period of work.	01 year
11	Project Period	one year and extendable 2 years
12.	UBN No.	DLB2526A2742

Details may be seen in the Tender document of work at our office orthe website of the State Public Procurement Portal http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in., http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in and may be downloaded from these website.
Raj.Samwad/C/25/4865 **Chairman** **Commissioner**

वैकुंठ मेहता राष्ट्रीय सहकारी प्रबंध संस्थान, पुणे 411007.
VAIKUNTH MEHTA NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT (VAMNICOM), Pune 411007.
(A National Institute under the aegis of National Council for Cooperative Training (NCCT), Promoted by Ministry of Cooperation, Government of India)
Email : cme@vamnicom.gov.in

Admission open for AICTE Approved
Two Year Full Time Residential
"POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN MANAGEMENT" (PGDM)
Programme with specialisation in Cooperation.

Candidates can apply online on VAMNICOM website on payment of application fee of Rs. 200/- with a valid test score of CAT/XAT/GMAT/CMAT(NTA). The last day of application is 7th July, 2025. For details about the admission criteria and programme structure you may please visit : **www.vamnicom.gov.in**

DIRECTOR

INBRIEF

Order surprise audits of all flights, petitioner urges SC

A petition filed in the Supreme Court on Tuesday alleged "systemic failures" in maintenance, functionality and passenger services on Air India flights while highlighting the tragic Ahmedabad crash. The plea filed by advocate Ajay Bansal wanted the court to order the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) to conduct surprise audits of the entire fleet of Air India and other airlines operating in India, and make public its findings, corrective measures and penalties imposed. The petition sought a suspension of the operation of Air India's Boeing fleet in order to hold a safety audit within two weeks. The plea pointed to the Ahmedabad crash and reports of maintenance backlogs.

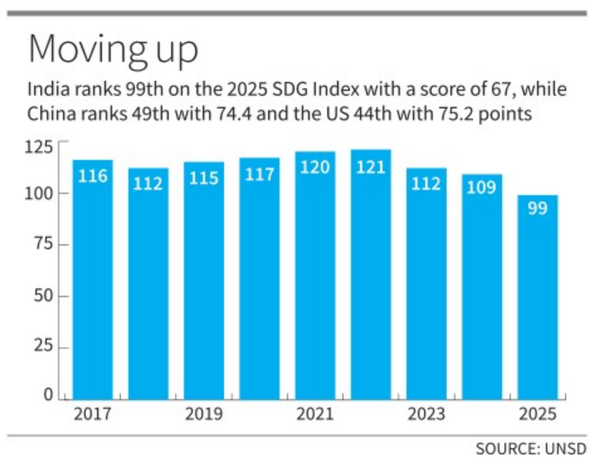
French woman raped in Udaipur; hunt on for accused

A 30-year-old French tourist was raped in Udaipur in Rajasthan allegedly by an employee of an event management company on Monday night. The police have launched a hunt to trace the accused, who is absconding. The woman, who was staying at a hotel in the city's Ambamata area, had attended a party at a restaurant near Tiger Hills on Monday night, where she met the accused, identified as Pushp Raj. The accused engaged the French woman in conversation and offered to show her around the city. "Pushp Raj later took her to his rented apartment in Sukher locality, where he raped her," the first information report stated.

For first time, India breaks into top 100 in global SDG rankings

The index measures overall progress toward achieving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals adopted in 2015; India takes 99th rank, up from 109

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI



India has, for the first time, secured a position among the top 100 countries in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Index, ranking 99th out of 167 nations in the 2025 edition of the Sustainable Development Report (SDR), released on Tuesday by the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network.

The latest report places India with a score of 67 on the SDG Index, a significant improvement from its 109th rank in 2024. China is ranked 49th with a score of 74.4, while the United States stands at 44th with 75.2 points.

The index measures overall progress toward achieving the 17 SDGs adopted by United Nations member states in 2015, with a score of 100 indicating full achievement of all goals.

Among India's neighbours, Bhutan ranks 74th (70.5), Nepal 85th (68.6), Bangladesh 114th (63.9), and Pakistan 140th (57). Maritime neighbours Maldives and Sri Lanka stand at 53rd and 93rd places respectively.

The report noted that since the adoption of the SDGs, India has steadily improved its standing: it ranked 112th in 2023, 121st in 2022, and 120th in 2021.

Despite India's gains, the report flagged that global progress on the SDGs has largely stalled. "Only 17 per cent of the SDG targets are on track to be achieved by 2030," it stated, attributing this to "conflicts, structural vulnerabilities, and limited fiscal space" in many regions.

The SDR, authored by a team led by economist Jeffrey Sachs, pointed to continued dominance by European nations on the index. Finland, Sweden and Denmark hold the top three positions, with 19 of the top 20 countries located in Europe.

However, even these nations are facing challenges related to climate change and biodiversity due to unsustainable consumption patterns.

Centre to challenge order on repatriation of deported woman

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The Centre had cancelled the visas of all Pakistani citizens and asked them to leave the country by April 29

The Union Home Ministry (MHA) is likely to appeal against an order of the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh to repatriate a 63-year-old woman who was deported to Pakistan following the crackdown against Pakistani nationals post-Pahalgam terror attack.

A government source said the order would be challenged soon in a higher court.

As reported by *The Hindu* on June 23, Judge Rahul Bharti had ordered the Union Home Secretary to "retrieve" the petitioner Rakshanda Rashid from Pakistan, "given the exceptional nature of facts and circumstances of the case".

Ms. Rashid had been living in Jammu with her husband and two children for 38 years till April 30 when she was deported to Pakistan through the Attari land border checkpoint in Punjab. Her family moved the High Court, which ordered on June 6 that she be brought back in 10 days.

Ankur Sharma, petitioner's counsel, told *The Hindu* the order could be challenged before the Division Bench of the High Court, and they were prepared to file a caveat.

"We understand that if the order is challenged by the Union government, we may also file a caveat so that whenever the case comes up for hearing we are also given a notice to present our case," Mr. Sharma said.

The petitioner is staying in a hotel in Lahore with little money as she has no immediate family members in Pakistan. Her daughter had said Ms. Rashid was on a long-term visa (LTV) in India and had applied for citizenship in 1996 which was never processed.

After the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, the Home Ministry cancelled the visas of all Pakistani citizens and asked them to leave the country by April 29. Though the order exempted those with LTVs or Pakistani women married to Indian citizens, Ms. Rashid was picked up by the Jammu and Kashmir police and deported to Pakistan, her lawyer said.

Supreme Court stays deportation of Assam woman

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday stayed the deportation of a woman as a "foreigner" as she said generations of her family have lived in Assam and have documents to prove their Indian nationality.

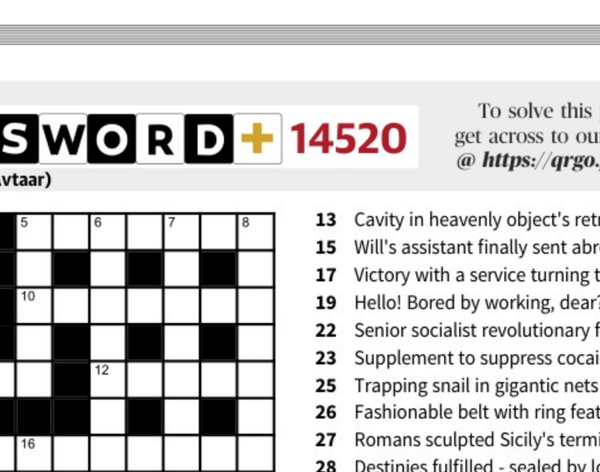
A Bench of Justices K.V. Viswanathan and N. Kotiswar Singh ordered the Union government to not take any coercive steps against Jaynab Bibi, represented by advocates Fuzail Ahmad Ayyubi and Akansha Rai.

Ms. Bibi said she was a citizen by birth, born and brought up at Muamari village under Dhing Mouza in Nagaon district of Assam. Mr. Ayyubi said the Foreigners Tribunal had declared his client a foreigner in an "arbitrary and mechanical manner", and the decision was confirmed by the Gauhati High Court in February 2025.

The lawyers referred to a 2024 decision of the Supreme Court, in which the court had touched upon the "clandestine manner" in which the people in Assam were being randomly suspected as foreigners without any evidence. The Bench listed the case for August 25.

DGCA audit reveals multiple safety violations, defects at major airports

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI



Remedial measures: The aviation body says corrective actions are expected within seven days. ANI

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has detected multiple violations related to airlines, airports, aircraft maintenance works, and repeated defects in multiple cases during its surveillance at major airports, an exercise carried out in less than two weeks after the Air India plane crash.

Without disclosing names of the airlines, airports and other entities in relation to the defects, the regulator on Tuesday said surveillance covered multiple critical areas such as flight operations, airworthiness, ramp safety, Air Traffic Control (ATC), Communication, Navigation and Surveillance (CNS) systems, and pre-flight medical evaluations.

From a faded centre line marking of a runway at an airport to non-update of obstruction limitation data for three years to a scheduled carrier's domestic flight being held up over worn tyres, the watchdog came across multiple defects in the aviation ecosystem.

Noting that the comprehensive surveillance will continue in future to detect hazards in the aviation ecosystem, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) said the findings have been communicated to the entities concerned for taking corrective actions within seven days.

Systemic errors

Two teams led by the Joint Director-General carried out the surveillance during night and early morning hours at major airports, including Delhi and Mumbai airports. In a detailed statement about the surveillance findings, the DGCA listed multiple cases wherein the reported defects reappeared many times on the aircraft indicating ineffective monitoring and inadequate rectification.

In one case, the work order was not followed during maintenance of aircraft, the DGCA said and added that the unserviceable thrust reverser system and flap slat lever were not locked.

Further, the regulator said a simulator was found not matching with the aircraft configuration and that the software was not updated to latest version.

Besides, a domestic flight of a scheduled carrier was held up due to worn tyres and it was released only after the proper rectification.

The DGCA said it had initiated a focused assessment to strengthen safety measures across the aviation ecosystem.

EPFO raises auto-settlement limit for advance claims for members to ₹5 lakh

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has enhanced the auto-settlement limit for advance claims from ₹1 lakh at present to ₹5 lakh.

Union Labour Minister Mansukh Mandaviya told reporters here on Tuesday that the move would help lakhs of EPFO members to receive funds faster, especially in times of urgent need.

The Minister said the EPFO had first introduced auto-settlement of advance claims during the COVID-19 pandemic to provide quick financial assistance to members. "Since then, the facility has been extended to cover advance claims for illness, education, marriage, and housing purposes. These claims

In 2024–25, the EPFO processed 2.34 crore advance claims through auto-settlement

are processed automatically by the system without any human involvement, ensuring quick turnaround and transparency," he said.

Mr. Mandaviya added that in 2024-25, the EPFO processed a record 2.34 crore advance claims through auto-settlement, a 161% increase compared with 89.52 lakh claims in 2023-24.

"Notably, 59% of all advance claims in 2024-25 were settled through the auto mode as compared to 31% in 2023-24. Further, in just the first 2.5 months of FY 2025-26, the EPFO has already auto-settled 76.52 lakh claims, constituting 70% of all advance claims settled so far," he said.

"The International Labour Organisation (ILO) had acknowledged India's achievement to expand the social security network and officially published on its dashboard that 64.3% of India's population, i.e. over 94 crore people, are now covered under at least one social protection benefit. In 2015, this figure was just 19%. In terms of beneficiary count, India now ranks second in the world, providing social protection to around 94 crore citizens," the Minister said.

22,000 camps held to take DAJGUA to tribal villages

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

In the past nine days, the government has held over 22,000 "jan seva" camps as part of its push to take the Tribal Affairs Ministry's flagship scheme saturation package, the Dharti Aba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyaan (DAJGUA), through which it said it had reached over 53 lakh Scheduled Tribe individuals, helping them get government scheme benefits.

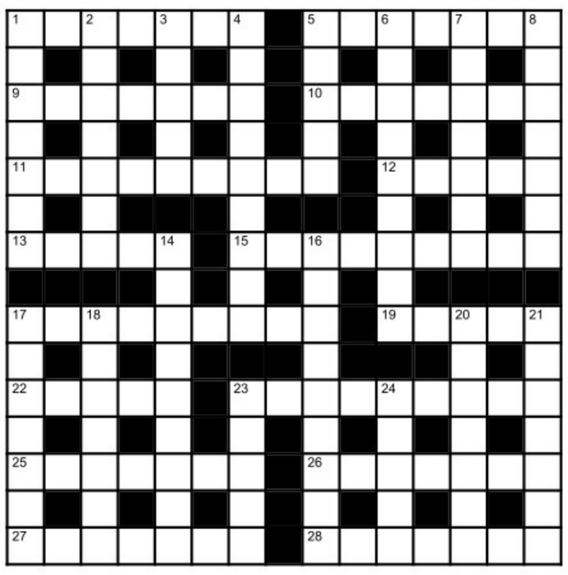
The DAJGUA package was launched in 2023. In the nine days of the campaign so far, the government said it had been able to achieve 1.38 lakh Aadhaar enrolments, 1.68 lakh Ayushmaan Bharat card registrations, 46,000 PM-Kisan registrations, 22,000 PM Ujjwala beneficiaries added, and 32,000 new PM-Jan Dhan accounts.

TH CROSSWORD + 14520

(set by Avtaar)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Amateur cuts, opening both sides of the belly (7)
5 Hue and cry about the end of casual love affair (7)
9 Bull run - support reversing - having crossed central point (7)
10 "Computer file is corrupted", associate stated (4,3)
11 Rush to hire help for extra payment (9)
12 Bailiff constantly recalled arresting leader in Exeter (5)
13 Cavity in heavenly object's retracted (5)
15 Will's assistant finally sent abroad, having trained (9)
17 Victory with a service turning the other way (4,5)
19 Hello! Bored by working, dear? (5)
22 Senior socialist revolutionary following final of the league (5)
23 Supplement to suppress cocaine craving (9)
25 Trapping snail in gigantic nets (7)
26 Fashionable belt with ring featured in commercial online (1,2,4)
27 Romans sculpted Sicily's terminal in work of stone (7)
28 Destinies fulfilled - sealed by locking of lips (7)

Down

1 Group of bugs survives, unexpectedly evading the introduction of vaccine (7)
2 Books about international organisation operating to support launch of research for quantum particle (7)
3 Hit book banned by Gulf (5)
4 Sign on hill describing earth's saviour (9)
5 Bum died in jail (5)
6 Father changed clothing, carpet and effects (9)
7 Blue film-set holding up old boys (7)
8 Engineers deal with seclusion (7)
14 Royal emblem featuring forgotten head of Europe (9)
16 Don't go near ribbon store, says Spooner (5,4)
17 Country fellow sent up after Avtaar stops scan (7)
18 Blackguard passes tea carriers (7)
20 Few supporting topseed's offensive (7)
21 Americans in tug visit retreats (7)
23 Young lady, one left abandoned in American city - is fuming (5)
24 Chic college girl (5)

SUDOKU

2	3				7	9	6	
			1					
1		6		9	2		4	
3		8						
	6	5		1		3	2	
						5		4
	2		7	6		8		5
					4			
	7	3	9				1	2

No.SS6561 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

T	U	R	N	C	O	A	T	■	R	E	S	C	U	E
E	■	E	■	O	■	D	■	W	■	T	■	U	■	X
M	O	D	I	C	U	M	■	I	M	H	O	T	E	P
P	■	E	■	K	■	I	■	L	■	Y	■	I	■	E
E	M	E	E	R	■	N	O	D	U	L	A	T	E	D
R	■	M	■	O	■	I	■	G	■	■	■	O	■	I
■	■	■	P	A	S	S	I	O	N	F	R	U	I	T
O	■	I	■	C	■	T	■	O	■	L	■	T	■	E
B	E	N	C	H	P	R	E	S	S	E	S	■	■	■
S	■	T	■	■	■	A	■	E	■	D	■	G	■	A
E	N	E	R	G	E	T	I	C	■	G	H	A	T	S
R	■	G	■	R	■	I	■	H	■	L	■	M	■	T
V	E	R	T	I	G	O	■	A	M	I	A	B	L	E
E	■	A	■	N	■	N	■	S	■	N	■	O	■	R
S	A	L	A	D	S	■	B	E	N	G	A	L	I	S

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

5	3	8	2	6	7	1	9	4
4	9	6	1	3	5	7	2	8
2	1	7	8	9	4	5	6	3
6	7	3	4	2	1	9	8	5
8	2	4	9	5	3	6	7	1
1	5	9	7	8	6	4	3	2
9	6	1	3	4	8	2	5	7
3	4	5	6	7	2	8	1	9
7	8	2	5	1	9	3	4	6

FAITH

Remorse is atonement

It is not easy to conquer our emotions. Even the best of us lose our temper sometimes, and hurt others with our words. But if one makes a habit of it, then it becomes unforgivable. Pillai Pillai Azhvan was one who could never curb his anger, said P.T. Seshadri in a discourse. At the slightest provocation, he would start abusing people. Luckily for him, he chose to become a disciple of the great Acharya Kooratazhvan. Kooratazhvan taught him Vedanta and all the sacred texts. Despite his learning, Pillai Pillai Azhvan continued to be abusive. One day Pillai Pillai Azhvan asked Kooratazhvan what he wanted as guru dakshina. Kooratazhvan wanted Pillai Pillai Azhvan to promise that he would never be cross with anyone and that he would never hurt anyone with harsh words. Pillai Pilali Azhvan gave his Acharya the promises that he sought. Unfortunately, he could not keep his word. Patience was a quality he lacked, and he was rude to everyone.

Many months passed without even a single visit to his Acharya. Kooratazhvan sent some of his disciples to fetch Pillai Pillai Azhvan, and when he arrived, Kooratazhvan asked him why he had not visited him. Pillai Pillai Azhvan shed tears and said he had broken the promise given to his Acharya. He knew it was wrong to be offensive, and he was still making efforts to behave as an ideal disciple of Kooratazhvan should. Kooratazhvan told him that the very fact that he had acknowledged his shortcomings showed he was going to win this battle. Remorse is itself an atonement. It is the first step in the attempt at self-reformation. There is no hope for someone who does something wrong, but refuses to acknowledge that he has erred.

INBRIEF

Govt. opens portal for electric car manufacturing scheme

Global electric vehicle (EV) giants can now apply for the scheme to promote manufacturing of electric passenger cars in India, which offers significantly lower import tax for automakers that pledge to invest in domestic EV production. Heavy Industries Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy inaugurated the portal for accepting applications under the scheme, which will remain open till October 21. He shared that 4-5 auto firms have shown preliminary interest in the scheme. PTI

'Hindustan Copper to bid for critical minerals, REE blocks'

Hindustan Copper Ltd., a Miniratna CPSE under the Ministry of Mines, plans to bid for critical minerals and rare earth element (REE) blocks along with other PSUs such as Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL), GAIL (India) and RITES as part of its diversification strategy, its Chairman and Managing Director Sanjiv Kumar Singh said in an interview. The copper company will soon enter into non-binding agreement with IOCL and GAIL (India) Ltd. for the purpose. PTI

Gland Pharma facility in Vizag recieves EIR from U.S. FDA

Gland Pharma's facility in Visakhapatnam, which was earlier this year issued Form 483 with three observations by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, has since received an establishment inspection report from the agency, the company said on Tuesday. The development that saw its shares close 1.43% higher at ₹1,768.75 apiece on the BSE. The EIR's receipt indicates closure of the U.S. FDA inspection conducted in February, the company said in a filling.

Adani Airports Holdings raises $1 bn for Mumbai airport revamp

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

Adani Airports Holdings Ltd. (AAHL), a wholly owned subsidiary of Adani Enterprises Ltd. said it has secured $1 billion financing through a project finance structure for revamp of the Mumbai International Airport Ltd. (MIAL).

The transaction involves issuance of $750 million notes maturing July 2029, which will be used for refinancing.

The financing structure also includes provision to raise an additional $250 million, resulting in total financing of $1 billion, the company said.

"This framework will provide enhanced financial flexibility for the capital expenditure program of MIAL for development, modernization, and capacity enhancement," it added. The transaction was led by Apollo-managed funds, with participation from a syndicate of leading institutional investors and insurance companies which included BlackRock-managed funds, Standard Chartered among others.

This issuance follows AAHL's $750 million financing from a consortium of global banks.

Meanwhile, Adani Group Chairman Gautam Adani said the group plans to invest $15-20 billion a year across businesses over the next five years to chart out the next phase of growth.

(With PTI inputs)

Maritime body sounds alarm on order to retire 'old' ships

The International Maritime Federation fears the DG Shipping's order may result in the premature retirement of as many as 700 vessels and render more than 20,000 seafarers jobless

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Over 700 Indian-flagged vessels, mostly operating in coastal and near-shore routes, are expected to be retired prematurely on age-based restrictions being imposed by DG Shipping, said International Maritime Federation (IMF).

This would render over 20,000 seafarers jobless and impact the livelihood of more than one lakh people, IMF officials said.

They were objecting to DG Shipping's Order 6/2023 on vessel-age norms and penalty mechanisms on Recruitment and Placement Services Licence (RPSL) companies.

IMF officials said as per the DG Shipping Order, 20-year-old ships will be scrapped. "The blanket ban on age of the ship and disproportionate RPSL penalties are not just operational hurdles, they are existential threats to India's maritime ecosystem," said Captain Nalin Pandey, CMD of Pentagon Marine.

IMF officials said a comprehensive global dataset of over 1.3 lakh commercial vessels and 3.7 lakh inspections found older vessels, especially those that have operated safely for over 25 years, often demonstrate better safety records than newer ships.

"This is attributed to rigorous maintenance practices and survivorship bias, older ships that are still operational tend to be more robust and better maintained," they added.

Turbulent waters

The IMF officials objected to the DG Shipping's Order on vessel-age norms, according to which 20-year-old ships will have to be scrapped

- Blanket ban viewed as an existential threat to India's maritime ecosystem
- IMF officials said comprehensive global dataset has found older vessels demonstrate better safety records
- This is attributed to rigorous maintenance practices and survivorship bias

Exporters need not have to be located in SEZs any more: FM

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

The NDA government's approach towards enhancing India's exports has meant that exporters no longer have to be located in Special Economic Zones (SEZs) to export their goods, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said, adding that India's export growth has surpassed that seen globally.

Speaking at the Exim Bank Trade Conclave on Tuesday, she said the government was following a "clustered" approach for developing export hubs through schemes such as Make in India, Production-Linked Incentives (PLI), One District One Product (ODOP), and Districts as Export Hubs (DEH).

She highlighted that, at a time when global exports grew 4%, India's total exports reached an all-time high of $825 billion and achieved a growth of 6.3% and a "significant leap" of over $466 billion over 2013-14.

It is rare to see a large economy as India grow so fast: Walmart CEO

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Walmart global CEO and president Doug McMillon on Tuesday reiterated the company's aim to source $10 billion a year from India, adding that it was rare to see a big economy like India growing as fast as it is. He further said that the company was learning a lot from its Indian acquisitions Flipkart and PhonePe.

Speaking at an event here, he said while a single trip can give a snapshot of what's happening in India, he has taken repeated trips and can see how the India story is unfolding, broadening and "becoming much more interesting".

Doug McMillon

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	TUESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	82,055	0.19
US Dollar	86.05	0.84
Gold	98,900	-0.90
Brent oil	67.51	-12.33

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2505.60	33.60
Adani Ports	1389.50	34.70
Apollo Hosp	7006.00	-1.50
Asian Paints	2275.30	11.20
Axis Bank	1221.20	7.10
Bajaj Auto	8377.00	90.50
Bajaj Finserv	2009.20	11.60
Bajaj Finance	916.50	1.00
Bharat Elec	418.50	-2.40
Bharti Airtel	1933.60	-2.70
Cipla	1502.40	3.30
Coal India	392.65	0.15
Dr Reddys Lab	1337.30	19.40
Eicher Motors	5629.00	76.50
Eternal Ltd.	255.07	0.43
Grasim Ind	2780.90	57.20
HCL Tech	1691.80	-11.40
HDFC Bank	1960.90	12.50
HDFC Life	779.70	5.55
Hero MotoCorp	4292.50	39.40
Hindalco	669.40	8.00
Hind Unilever	2263.10	-12.00
ICICI Bank	1424.10	4.00
IndusInd Bank	831.95	-7.95
Infosys	1581.60	-2.40
ITC	414.35	0.45
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	300.80	7.65
JSW Steel	1007.00	10.00
Kotak Bank	2223.60	39.50
L&T	3604.80	21.10
M&M	3150.10	15.10
Maruti Suzuki	12611.00	-88.00
NestleIndia	2365.80	6.70
NTPC	329.95	-2.65
ONGC	243.92	-7.46
PowerGrid Corp	285.95	-4.30
Reliance Ind	1450.80	-6.00
SBI Life	1843.00	24.40
State Bank	795.40	5.20
Shriram Finance Ltd.	676.05	14.40
Sun Pharma	1661.70	-0.80
TataConsumerProduct	1107.70	-1.70
Tata Motors	673.65	2.40
Tata Steel	154.79	2.36
TCS	3390.40	-3.20
Tech Mahindra	1677.10	-4.70
Titan	3526.00	20.30
Trent Ltd.	6057.50	-62.50
UltraTech Cement	11579.00	130.00
Wipro	264.97	1.73

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on June 24

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	85.78	76.10
Euro	99.50	99.87
British Pound	116.76	117.21
Japanese Yen (100)	59.13	59.35
Chinese Yuan	11.96	12.00
Swiss Franc	105.91	106.32
Singapore Dollar	66.99	67.25
Canadian Dollar	62.52	62.77
Malaysian Ringitt	20.18	20.31
Australian Dollar	55.83	56.05

Source:Indian Bank

'Chennai JLR plant to make cars by 2026'

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) cars will be produced from Chennai starting early next year for the Indian market and the plant will be fully operational by 2032, P.B. Balaji, Group CFO, Tata Motors said on Tuesday.

"As far as the Chennai plant is concerned, for JLR, we will be starting with CKD operations early next year and thereafter will decide what else gets localised there," he said.

CKD to shift

Today, JLR had CKD operations in Pune and over time, it would probably get to migrate to Chennai.

Mr. Balaji said U.S. tariffs would impact JLR's business and EBITDA would drop to about 5% to 7% from the projected 10%.

U.S. tariffs would impact JLR's business, says CFO Balaji.

Shailesh Chandra, MD, Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles Ltd. and Tata Passenger Electric Mobility Ltd. said the company had committed an investment of ₹33,000 to ₹35,000 crore in the next five years with an ambition to capture 18% to 20% market share by 2030.

Bombay HC resolves dispute on Tata's will

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

The order settles key questions about the interpretation of ex Tata Sons chairman Ratan Tata's will

In a significant judgment relating to late industrialist and former Tata Sons Chairman Ratan Tata's will, the Bombay High Court has ruled a bulk of his undistributed listed and unlisted shares would go to the Ratan Tata Endowment Foundation and Ratan Tata Endowment Trust. The order settles key questions about the interpretation of his will and subsequent codicils, reaffirming Mr. Tata's commitment to philanthropy.

Justice Manish Pitale pronounced the order in a case filed by Shireen Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy and others, executors and beneficiaries under the will. The case was initiated as originating summons under Rule 238 of Bombay High Court Rules, 1980, which allows courts to decide matters involving interpretation of documents without a full trial when facts are undisputed.

At the heart of the matter was whether the shares be distributed among specific family beneficiaries under clauses 4 and 8 of the will or form part of the "rest and residue" of the estate under revised Paragraph 13, thereby passing solely to the Endowment Foundation and Trust.

SEBI mulls market infrastructure institution rejig to boost governance

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) proposed steps to strengthen the governance of market infrastructure institutions (MII) in a consultation paper released on June 24.

The need for review comes in the backdrop of expanding scope of the securities market and the adverse effects slippages in governance in these institutions could have on the broader economy, SEBI officials wrote in the paper.

The markets watchdog proposed MIIs, like stock exchanges or clearing corporations, appoint two executive directors reporting to the managing director. SEBI had already proposed three broad verticals in MIIs – 'Critical Operations,' 'Regulatory, Compliance, Risk Management and Investor Grievances' and 'Commercial Interests and Business Development.'

SEBI is concerned about any slippage in governance.

SEBI now said the first two should be a priority in governance "to ensure the orderly functioning and development of the securities market."

Two EDs

The two EDs will head the first two verticals, SEBI proposed. Appointment of an ED for the third vertical has been left to the discretion of the MIIs, it added.

Under the current regulations, only the MDs of MIIs are allowed to be on the Governing Boards. SEBI proposed the EDs of the two verticals be part of the board and in comparable stature with the MD.

This means the appointment and re-appointment of EDs will be similar to that of the MD, which may need SEBI's approval. EDs have to report to the Governing Board and SEBI quarterly on matters concerning respective verticals, SEBI said.

SEBI proposed MII MDs can now take non-executive directorships in an unlisted government company, either central or State, or in a non-profit company. EDs however will not hold directorships in companies other than the MII's subsidiary. The proposals will be open for public consultations till July 15.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the certificate (s) for 878 shares bearing Share Certificate Nos: 567368, with Distinctive Nos 108667313 to 108668190 under Reg. Folio No BSE0100023 of BSE Limited standing in the name of Mr. Sridhar Parthasarathy has/have been lost or mislaid and the undersigned has/ have applied to the company to issue duplicate Certificate(s) for the said shares. Any person who has any claim in respect of the said shares should write to our Registrar, KFIN Technologies Limited, Selenium Tower B, Plot 31-32, Gachibowli Financial District, Hyderabad-500032 within one month from this date else the company will proceed to issue duplicate Certificate(s).

Sd/- **Sridhar Parthasarathy**
1816, 13th Cross, Sector- 1
HSR Layout, Bangalore- 560102

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that our client **Mr.Jayaprakash.R C/o Smt.Prema C** is intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from **Mr.R. Ramakrishna S/o Sri.Ramaswamy;** any person/s objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof on or before **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which; our clients shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of property bearing House Site No.30, Katha No.85, HL No. 129, situated at Horamavu Village, K.R.Pura Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore, Measuring East to West: 30' (thirty feet) and North to South: 40' (forty feet), Limits of BBMP and bounded on the: East by : House Site No. 31, West by : House Site No. 29, North by: 25 feet Road, South by: House Site No. 35.

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN M.A., L.L.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants Bangalore-43
M : 9845846428, 9108784843, 080-48658774
E- Mail: rvlaw.76@gmail.com

KALYAN KARNATAKA ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION VIJAYAPUR DIVISION

NO:KKRTC:VJP:TR:COMM:809:2025-26 Dated:16.06.2025

E-Tender Publication [No: 205/02]

Vijayapur Division invited E-Tender(Through E-Procurement) for Commercial Shops, Refreshment Rooms, Open Space of Various Bus Stands comes under this Division & Newly constructed Stall / Canteen in Nagthan Bus Stand,. Detailed tender schedule is as below.

1) Last Date for submitting online application: **14.07.2025** at 17.30 PM.

2) E-Tender Opening **Date :16.07.2025** at 10.00 Am onward

For details visit https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in or Contact D.T.O :7760992252 or Commercial Case Worker (Traffic Section) @ Divisional Office during office hours.

Sd/- Divisional Controller,
K.K.R.T.C Vijayapur Division.

ವಾಸಾಸಂ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/146/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN:U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No.KPTCL/B31/ SEE(IT)/EE(IT-1)/66247/2/2025-26 Date:23.06.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)

KPTCL invites bid against enquiry No: **KPTCL/B31/ SEE(IT)/EE(IT-1)/66247/2/2025-26** for **"Supply of IT Hardware at offices of KPTCL".** The bids will be received through E-procurement mode only. The detailed notification regarding the enquiry can be obtained by logging onto KPTCL website **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** on the hyperlink 'E Procurement KPTCL' or to **https://kppp. karnataka.gov.in on or after 25-06-2025, 5PM.** Other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Chief General Manager(Tech)., Corporate Office, KPTCL, 2nd Floor, Kaveri Bhavan, Bengaluru-560 009.

CITY CORPORATION BELAGAVI
C.T.S. No. 4821/26, 4821/27, R.S. No. 1005, Subhasha Nagara, Belagavi, Ph. : 0831-2405304, E-mail : itstaff_ulb_belgaum@yahoo.com, Website : www.belgaumcity.mrc.gov.in

No. : C.C.B./G.A.D./D.C. (A)/D.E.O./TND/E-pro 01/2024-25
Date : 23-06-2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Commissioner, City Corporation Belagavi invites tenders in accordance with KTPP Act 1999 Rules 2000 through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal for **Supply of Data Entry Operators, Account Consultant and Junior Programmer on Contract Basis to attend the Office Work at City Corporation Belagavi.**

Name of the Tender : Supply of Data Entry Operators, Account Consultant and Junior Programmer on Contract Basis to attend the Office Work at City Corporation Belagavi. DMA/2024-25/SE3234/CALL-2, Estimated Amount (In Lakhs) : 142.25, E.M.D. (In Lakhs) : 3.00, Tender Period : 12 Months.

1) Last Date for Queries : 03-07-2025 upto 5.00 p.m. 2) Pre-Bid Meeting : 05-07-2025 at 11.00 a.m. in Office of the Commissioner, City Corporation Belagavi. 3) Last Date for Receipt of Tender : 11-07-2025 upto 4.00 p.m. 4) Date for Opening of Technical Bid : 14-07-2025 at 11.00 a.m. in Office of the Commissioner, City Corporation Belagavi. 5) Date for Opening of Financial Bid : 15-07-2025 at 11.00 a.m. in Office of the Commissioner, City Corporation Belagavi.

For more details visit online **Website : https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Any Addendum / Corrigendum will be published in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only.

Sd/- Commissioner,
City Corporation Belagavi.

DIPR/Belagavi/537/Manipal/2025-26

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

OPEN TENDER NOTICE No. 14/SBC/25 Dated: 12.06.2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

Sl.	Description of work	Approx Value
1	**Bengaluru - Sampige Road Section:** Supply of ballast at Nittur (NTR) Depot (Quantity = 80,175 cum), including leading and loading in connection with the work of **(a)** Complete track renewal (P) of existing 52kg rails on 60kg PSC of 1540 Nos/km with 60kg/90 UTS rails and 60 kg wider base sleeper of 1660/km for a length of 17.15 km from 17/650-10/500 and 39/000-49/000 DN line in Asst. Divisional Engineer / Yesvantpur Section, **(b)** Complete Track Renewal (P) of existing 52kg rails on 60kg PSC of 1540 nos/km with 60kg/90 UTS rails and 60kgwider base sleeper of 1660/km for a length of 21.35km from 17/650 @ 4547 @ 000 UP line in Asst. Divisional Engineer / Yesvantpur Section, **(c)** Complete track renewal (P) of existing 52kg rails on 60kg PSC of 1540 nos/km with 60kg/90 UTS rails and 60kg wider base sleeper of 1660/km for a length of 19.4 Tkm from km 49/000-68/400 DN line in Asst. Divisional Engineer / Yesvantpur section.	Rs. 8,26,94,900/-
2	**Sub Work-I: Bengaluru - Dharmavaram Section:** Complete Track Renewal (P) of existing 60kg PSC of 1660 nos/km with 60kg/90 UTS R-260 rails and 60kg wider base sleeper of 1660/km for a length of 5.5 Tkm from km 130/000-135/500 (DN) in SSE/P.WAY/Penukonda section. **Sub Work-II: Bengaluru - Dharmavarm Section:** Through Fittings Renewal - 42.3 kms from km. 101/200-130/000 and 135/500-136/700 (DN Line) and km 136/700- 149/000 (SL) in SSE/P.WAY/Penukonda section. **Sub Work-III: Bengaluru-Dharmavaram Section:** Earthwork in connection with the work of Complete Track Renewal (P) of existing 60kg rails on 60kg PSC of 1660 nos/km with 60kg/90 UTS R-260 rails and 60kg wider base sleeper of 1660/km for a length of 5.5 Tkm from 130/000-135/500 (DN) in SSE/PWAY/Penukonda Section. (Composite work). Maintenance period of Sub Work-III is 6 months or one monsoon period whichever is later.	Rs. 3,16,25,340/-
3	**Yesvantpur Section:** Provision of stores for SSE/P.WAY/ Yesvantpur in Asst. Divisional Engineer/Yesvantpur sub-division including Electrical portion. Maintenance period is 12 months (Composite tender).	Rs. 94,99,463/-
4	**Sr. Divisional Engineer/North/Bengaluru Section: Kyatsandra:** Major Upgradation/Modernization of infrastructure at KDAG goods shed. Maintenance period is 12 months (Composite work).	Rs. 22,17,30,998/-

Last date for submission of bids:**Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 14.07.2025**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Engineer /Co-Ordination/Bengaluru

PUB/197/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2025-26

Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

AIR FORCE ONE

China can continue to buy Iranian oil, says Trump, in relief for Tehran

AFP

China can continue to buy Iranian oil, U.S. President Donald Trump said in what appeared to be relief for Tehran from sanctions Washington has previously imposed to punish the trade. China's position as the main buyer of Iranian oil has served as a crucial lifeline for Tehran as its economy is battered by curbs. AFP

WASHINGTON

U.S. Supreme Court allows third country deportations to resume

REUTERS

A divided U.S. Supreme Court paved the way for Donald Trump to resume deportations of undocumented migrants to countries that are not their own. The order came in response to an emergency appeal by the Justice Department to lift a stay imposed by a lower court on so-called third country deportations. AFP

ISTANBUL

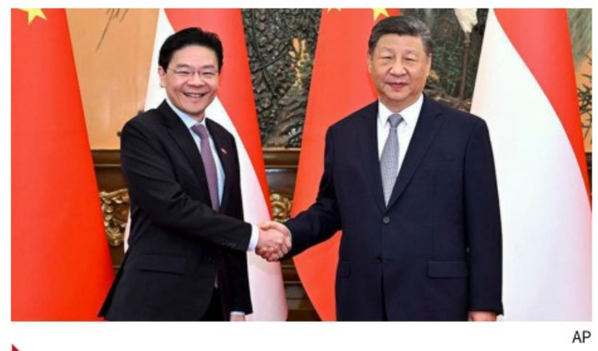
Turkiye arrests 158 military staff suspected of links to Erdogan foe

AFP

Turkish police arrested 158 members of the military suspected of links to Fethullah Gulen, who was accused of masterminding a failed 2016 coup, the public prosecutor's office in Istanbul said. Gulen, a cleric who died in 2024, was once a close ally of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan before the two became bitter enemies. AFP

BEIJING

China's Xi urges Singapore PM Wong to jointly resist 'hegemony'



AP

Chinese President Xi Jinping called on Singapore's Prime Minister Lawrence Wong to join the fight against "hegemony" and protectionism in trade as they met in Beijing. Mr. Wong, in turn, told Mr. Xi he believed the Singapore-China ties were "more important than before" in a time of "global turbulence and uncertainty". AFP

Iran signals it is willing to return to talks as truce with Israel takes hold

However, President Masoud Pezeshkian says Iran would continue to 'assert its legitimate rights' to the peaceful use of atomic power; Tehran revises death toll, says at least 610 civilians are killed and more than 4,700 wounded in strikes

Agence France-Presse
TEHRAN

Sigh of relief: People assemble in Tehran on Tuesday to support Iran's armed forces following the announcement of a truce. REUTERS

Iran said on Tuesday that it was ready to return to negotiations with the U.S., as a fragile ceasefire in its war with Israel took hold after 12 days of strikes that pummelled the Islamic republic's nuclear facilities.

But even as he appeared to express willingness to revisit nuclear talks derailed by Israel's surprise attack, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said his country would continue to "assert its legitimate rights" to the peaceful use of atomic power.

The United States on Sunday had joined Israel's campaign with strikes on key nuclear sites.

After Iran retaliated with a missile attack on Monday night targeting a U.S. base in Qatar, President Donald Trump called for de-escalation, announcing the conditions of a ceasefire deal a couple of hours later.

In a phone call on Tuesday, Mr. Pezeshkian told his Emirati counterpart "to explain to them, in your dealings with the United States, that the Islamic Republic of Iran is only seeking to assert its legitimate rights".

Not seeking nukes

"It has never sought to acquire nuclear weapons and does not seek them," he was quoted as saying by the official IRNA news agency, adding that Iran was "ready to resolve the issues... at the negotiating table".

Israel has said its war, which began on June 13, was aimed at preventing Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon, an ambition Tehran has long denied holding.

Some Israelis on Tuesday welcomed the prospect of a truce.

In Iran, people remained uncertain whether the peace would hold. Amir, 28, fled from Tehran to the Caspian Sea coast said by phone, "I really don't know... about the ceasefire but honestly, I don't think things will return to normal."

Israeli strikes on Iran have killed at least 610 civilians and wounded more than 4,700, according to the health ministry.

Iran's attacks on Israel have killed 28 people, according to official figures and rescuers.

Israel kills 46 in Gaza as UN slams U.S.-backed aid system

Agence France-Presse
GAZA CITY

No let-up: Two children attend the funeral of Palestinians killed while trying to receive aid in Gaza City on Tuesday. REUTERS

Gaza's civil defence agency said Israeli forces killed another 46 people waiting for aid in the Palestinian territory on Tuesday as rights groups and UN agencies slammed the U.S.-backed food distribution system.

Civil defence spokesman Mahmud Bassal said that 21 people were killed and around 150 wounded by Israeli fire near an aid point in central Gaza early Tuesday, and that another 25 were killed in a separate incident in south Gaza.

The latest deaths came as Israel's opposition leader and the families of Israeli hostages being held in Gaza called on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to widen a ceasefire with Iran to include the Palestinian territory.

Pressure also grew on the U.S.- and Israeli-backed privately run aid group Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF), which was brought into the Palestinian territory at the end of May to replace United Nations agencies.

The head of the UN agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA) called the system an "abomination" while a spokesman for the UN human rights office, Thameen Al-Kheetan, condemned the "weaponisation of food" in Gaza.

According to figures issued on Tuesday, at least 516 people have been killed and nearly 3,800 wounded by Israeli fire while seeking rations since late May.

Trump remains dicey about NATO's mutual defence guarantees

Associated Press
WASHINGTON

Donald Trump

U.S. President Donald Trump on Tuesday injected some uncertainty over whether Washington would abide by the mutual defence guarantees outlined in the NATO treaty as he headed to its summit.

"Depends on your definition," Mr. Trump told reporters on Tuesday as he was headed to The Hague, where this year's summit is being held. "There are numerous definitions of Article Five, you know that, right? But I'm committed to being their friend." Asked later to clarify, Mr. Trump said he is "committed to saving lives" and "committed to life and safety", but did not expand further, saying he did not want to elaborate while flying on an airplane.

The remarks, which came to reporters on Air Force One as Mr. Trump travelled to the Netherlands, previewed what could be another volatile appearance by Mr. Trump at a summit celebrating an alliance that the Republican President has derided.

Pakistan court rejects Imran's bail plea in May 9 cases

Press Trust of India
LAHORE

Reserving its judgment for Monday, the court rejected ex-PM's bail pleas in eight cases

A Pakistani court on Tuesday rejected former Prime Minister Imran Khan's petitions seeking post-arrest bail in eight terrorism cases related to the May 9 riots.

Mr. Khan, the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder, is booked in several cases in Lahore in connection with the May 9, 2023, violence, including for allegedly inciting his supporters to attack government and military buildings, which erupted after his arrest by paramilitary Rangers from the Islamabad High Court premises.

"The Lahore High Court (LHC) has rejected all bail petitions filed by the founder of PTI in connection with eight cases related to the May 9, 2023 cases, including Jinnah House/Lahore Corps Commander House attack and arson incidents," the court said.

Two-member Bench

A two-member Bench of the LHC headed by Justice Shehbaz Rizvi announced the verdict on the bail petitions filed by Mr. Khan in eight cases.

The Bench reserved its judgment on Monday after concluding the hearing.

Russian attacks kill 26 civilians in Ukraine as Zelenskyy seeks more Western help

Associated Press
KYIV

Damage control: Emergency services at work following a Russian missile strike in the eastern Ukrainian city of Dnipro on Tuesday. AFP

Russian drones, missiles and artillery killed at least 26 civilians and injured more than 200 others in Ukraine, officials said on Tuesday, as Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy sought guarantees of further Western military aid for his country's efforts to repel Russia's invasion.

Russian forces have relentlessly blasted civilian areas of Ukraine throughout the war, which is now in its fourth year. More than 12,000 Ukrainian civilians have been killed, according to the United Nations. Ukraine has also launched long-range drones against Russia, hitting residential areas.

Mr. Zelenskyy was set to meet on Tuesday with Western leaders attending a NATO summit in The Hague, Netherlands.

A Russian ballistic missile attack on Dnipro hit multiple civilian sites in the central Ukrainian city around midday on Tuesday, killing 15 persons and injuring more than 174. In the nearby town of Samar, an attack killed two persons and injured 14, Dnipro's regional administration head Serhii Lysak wrote on Telegram.

Ukrainian drones

Russian air defence forces overnight shot down 20 Ukrainian drones, the Russian Defense Ministry said Tuesday morning. It said 14 were downed over the Kursk region, which borders Ukraine, while two had been flying over the Moscow province.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer-5 Health and Sanitation Division, BBMP Head Office # 408, Annex-3 Building 4th Floor, N.R. Road, Bengaluru - 560 002
No:BBMP/EE-5/H&S/TEND/01/2025-26 Call-2 Date: 24.06.2025

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Two Cover System) Call-2

(Through **GOK** KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** only)
The Executive Engineer-5, Health and Sanitation Division, BBMP Bengaluru, invites Proposals (Technical and Financial) for appointing contractors as detailed in the table below.

Sl No.	Name of the Project
1.	**Supply of Disaster Management Equipment's like Life Jacket, Pumps, Inflated Boats with OBM Motors for performing tasks such as search and rescue operations during floods in BBMP Limits. Amount put to tender: ₹. 62,00,00.00 EMD: ₹. 1,24,000.00**

Calendar of Events : (1) Availability of RFP document from **25.06.2025** at **4:00** pm onwards. (2) Last Date for Receipt of Queries **27.06.2025** upto **3:00** pm. (3) Date of Pre-Bid Meeting at the Office of the Chief Engineer (H&S) on **27.06.2025** at **3:30** pm. (4) Last Date for uploading the Filled Proposals is **04.07.2025** at **4:00** pm. (5) Date of Opening of Technical Proposals is **05.07.2025** at **4:30** pm. (6) Date of opening of Financial Proposals after approval to Technical Proposals through KPP Portal.

Sd/- Executive Engineer-5,
Health and Sanitation Division

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
AUCTION PROGRAMME NOTICE No: S/XIII/02/2025-26
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, following is the Schedule of E-Auction to be held during months of July, August and September 2025 for Sale of on-line Scrap Serviceable Locomotives and Depot Scrap under the jurisdictions of General Stores Depot / Hubballi and Mechanical General Stores Depot / Ashokapuram Depots and Hubballi, Mysuru and Bengaluru Divisions of South Western Railway.

Types of Auction	Venue	July - 2025		August - 2025		September - 2025	
E-Auction	General Stores Depot/Hubballi	3rd	17th	4th	18th	3th	16th
	Mechanical General Stores Depot, Ashokapuram (Mysuru)	8th	22nd	5th	19th	4th	18th
	Hubballi Division	9th	23rd	6th	20th	9th	22nd
	Bengaluru Division	10th	24th	7th	21st	10th	23rd
	Mysuru Division	15th	29th	11th	28th	11th	25th

Sale of serviceable locomotives: Following Nine (9) number Condemned, Surplus, Under Aged and Serviceable Locomotives are in E-Auction of Senior Divisional Material Manager / Bengaluru viz. WDG3A-13118, 13268, 13299, 13331, 13249, 13263,13270 & 13243, WDM3A-16670.

You all are requested to actively participate in the above scheduled e-Auction. For details please contact Deputy Chief Material Manager/General Stores Depot / Hubballi (0836-2363466 / 9731668760), Deputy Chief Material Manager / Mechanical General Stores Depot / Ashokapuram (0821-2480171 / 9731665756), Senior Divisional Material Manager / Hubballi (0836-2363497 / 9731668750), Senior Divisional Material Manager / Bengaluru (080-22873081 / 9731666750), Senior Divisional Material Manager / Mysuru (0821-2420817 / 9731667750)

For Locos Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer / DSL / Krishnarajapuram - 9731666451 & Senior Sectional Engineer / DSL / Krishnarajapuram - 9731666482.

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in/E-auction

PUB/195/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Deputy Chief Materials Manager/Constuction/ Hubballi

Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer (QA/QC-Mahadevapura)
Room no.101, Annex-3 building, BBMP N R Square, Bangalore-02.
No: EE(QA/QC)/MDP/TEND/08/25-26 Date : 24.06.2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(TWO COVER SYSTEM) (Only Through KPP Portal)

The Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Quality Assurance/Quality Control division invites Request for Proposal from interested persons/firms those who have done similar type of work for Consultancy Services for Project Management including Supervision, Quality control (PMC) for the below works through KPP Portal by the Executive Engineer QA/QC, Mahadevapura on behalf of the Chief Commissioner, BBMP Bengaluru. Tender documents may be downloaded from Government of Karnataka e- Procurement **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sl. No.	Name of the Works/Project Cost Rs in Lakhs/EMD amount in Rs.
1	Providing PMC Services including Supervision, Quality control for "Improvements to Roads & Drains in K Channasandra Khane Road, Pooja Garden kalkere village NRI Layout Double Road in ward No-88 Kalkere and Shanthi Layout main road and cross Road in Ward no -90 R M Nagar". Project Cost Rs in Lakhs : **400.00**, EMD amount in Rs. **:8,500/-**

Calender of events :
1.Tender Document may be downloaded through KPP-portal from : **26.06.2025**.
2. Pre-bid Meeting : **02.07.2025** at **11.30 AM** Office of the Executive Engineer (QA/QC) R.no.101, Annex-3 building, BBMP N R Square, Bangalore-560 002.
3. Last Date & Time for receipt of Tenders : **07.07.2025** up to **4:00 PM.**
4. Opening of Technical bid : **08.07.2025** at **4:30 PM.**
5. Validity of Tender : **90 Days from last date of receipts of Tender**

Sd/-, Executive Engineer (QA/QC-Mahadevapura), BBMP

Government of Jharkhand
Department of Mines & Geology,Directorate of Geology
Engineers' Hostel No-2, 2nd floor, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004

S. No.	Particulars	Information
1.	Nameofwork	Empanelment of Survey Agencies for carrying out DGPS as well as Total Station Survey.
2.	ContactPersonand Address for Communication	Director, Geology; Directorate of Geology, Department of Mines & Geology, Government of Jharkhand; Engineers' Hostel No-2, 2nd Floor, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004; E-mail id: dir-geology@jharkhandmail.gov.in
3.	Date of issue of Bid Document and NIT	25.06.2025
4.	Cost of Tender Documents	The Bid document can be downloaded from *www.jharkhand.gov.in* upon payment of the cost (*non-refundable*) of BidDocument/TenderDocument of Rs. 10000.00 (Ten Thousand) only.
5.	Period of issue of Bid Documents	From date: 25.06.2025 todate: 17.07.2025.
6.	Validity of Proposal submitted	At least 180 (one hundred and eighty) days from the last date of submission of Bid.
7.	Security Deposit	The successful bidder will have to deposit a sum of Rs. 1,50,000/- (One Lakh Fifty Thousand only)as Security Deposit in the form of Bank Guarantee (Annexure-I) for complete 03 (Three) years issued by any Nationalized/Nationalized Scheduled bank in favour of "*Directorate of Geology, Department of Mines and Geology, Govt. of Jharkhand*" payable at *Ranchi*.
8.	Tender publication date	25.06.2025
9.	Last date of submission of pre-Bid queries	03.07.2025 till 03:00 PM at dir-geology@jharkhandmail.gov.in
10.	Pre-Bid Meeting	10.07.2025 at 4:00 PM through online & offline modes.
11.	Last Date/Time for submission of Bids	17.07.2025 up to 03:00 PM.
12.	Mode of Bid submission	The bid must be submitted through the Speed post/Registered post in a sealed envelope clearly mentioning the EOI reference number and the subject matter on the sealed envelope.
13.	Address of Bid submission	Directorate of Geology, Engineers' Hostel No-2, 2nd Floor, Dhurwa, Ranchi, Jharkhand, PIN-834004
14.	Bid opening date	21.07.2025 at 01:00 PM.
15.	Helpline No.	0651-3519388

Sd/-
Director, Geology
Directorate of Geology,
Department of Mines & Geology,
Government of Jharkhand

PR 355830 Mines and Geology(25-26).D

MORALE-CRUSHING LOSS

Batters smash five hundreds, but India ends up on the losing side

GETTY IMAGES

The five three-figure knocks by the Indian batters (Jaiswal 101, Gill 147, Pant 134 & 118 and Rahul 137) against England in the Headingley Test were the most hundreds scored in a Test defeat. Australia, with four centuries in the loss to England in Melbourne (1928-29), held the previous dubious record.

835, BUT...

Team India's mountain of runs not enough to stop England

AP

India's tally of 835 in the opening Test at Leeds is the fourth most runs scored by a team in a Test loss after England's 861 (vs Australia, Leeds, 1948), Pakistan's 847 (vs England, Rawalpindi, 2022) and New Zealand's 837 (vs England, Trent Bridge, 2022). Three of the top four have come in the Bazball era.

EPOCHAL TRIUMPH

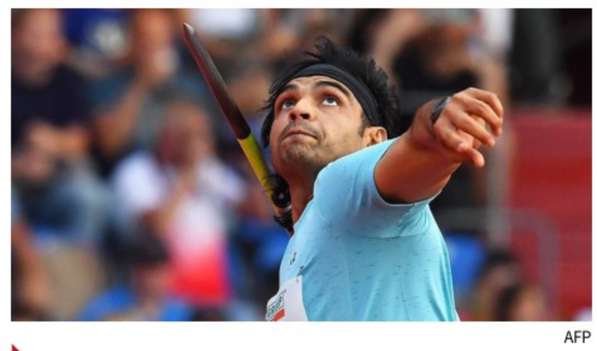
June 25, the date 'Kapil's Devils' stunned the world in 1983

GETTY IMAGES

June 25 is a red-letter day in the history of Indian cricket as on this date, 42 years ago, Kapil Dev led from the front as 66-1 outsiders India stunned defending champion West Indies to win the Prudential World Cup. Prior to that, in 1932, Team India made its Test debut on the same date by taking on England at Lord's.

ANOTHER SUCCESS

Neeraj wins at Ostrava Golden Spike meet with an 85.29m effort



AFP

Javelin ace Neeraj Chopra on Tuesday triumphed at his maiden Golden Spike meet in Ostrava for a back-to-back win in top-class competition. Fresh from his Paris Diamond League success on June 20, Neeraj emerged on top in a nine-man field with a modest effort of 85.29m in the World Athletics Continental Tour Gold event.

Duckett dazzles as England pulls off a famous win

The left-hander puts on 188 along with fellow opener Crawley; the two see off Bumrah and Siraj before shifting gears; Root guides the hosts home in the company of Smith in a tense finish

INDIA IN ENGLAND

N. Sudarshan
LEEDS

Like a masterful slow-burn novel that would catch fire spectacularly towards the climax, the first England-India Test witnessed a blockbuster finish on Tuesday as Ben Stokes and his men chased down a 371-run target with five wickets to spare and went 1-0 up in the series.

Day five at Headingley was supposed to be marred by rain but it ended under blue skies and a dash of late-evening sunshine. In this setting, talisman Joe Root shimmered, scoring 53 nerveless, unbeaten runs (84b, 6x4), and combining for an unbroken 71-run partnership with Jamie Smith (44 n.o., 55b, 4x4, 2x6) to hand India a chastening defeat that will lead to a lot of soul-searching.

Perfect day's cricket

England played a perfect day's cricket. Openers Zak Crawley (65, 126b, 7x4) and Ben Duckett (149, 170b, 21x4, 1x6) combined for an authoritative 188-run stand that spanned more than a session and a half. The manner in which the duo went about the task reflected some sound thinking.

When the morning started with gloomy weather and flood lights on, Indian fans could have be forgiven if they thought that Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj would be a handful.

But Crawley and Duckett, despite facing a few unplayable deliveries, doused the fire. From the first eight overs of the day, only 20 runs were scored.

But once Shubman Gill rang in the bowling changes, like introducing Prasidh Krishna as first change, the English batters loosened up and scored at more than five an over. There was the odd half-chance – like the tough caught-and-bowled opportunity that Bumrah had to dismiss Crawley on 42 – but nothing more.

England went into lunch at 117 for no loss and burst back after the break with an extra spring in its step. Crawley and Duckett even started playing Bumrah easily, with the former picking up two beautiful fours off his legs.

Stars of the show: Duckett put England on course with a brilliant ton while Smith and Root kept their cool in the 371-run chase as Stokes' men went 1-0 up. GETTY IMAGES

SCOREBOARD

INDIA — 1ST INNINGS
471 in 113 overs.
ENGLAND — 1ST INNINGS
465 in 100.4 overs.
INDIA — 2ND INNINGS
364 in 96 overs.
ENGLAND — 2ND INNINGS (Target: 371)
Zak Crawley c Rahul b Prasidh 65 *(126b, 7x4)*, Ben Duckett c sub (Nitish) b Shardul 149 *(170b, 21x4, 1x6)*, Ollie Pope b Prasidh 8 *(8b, 2x4)*, Joe Root (not out) 53 *(84b, 6x4)*, Harry Brook c Pant b Shardul 0 *(1b)*, Ben Stokes c Gill b Jadeja 33 *(51b, 4x4)*, Jamie Smith (not out) 44 *(55b, 4x4, 2x6)*; Extras (b-12, lb-6, nb-3): 21; Total (for five wkts. in 82 overs): 373.
FALL OF WICKETS
1-188 (Crawley, 42.2 overs), 2-206 (Pope, 44.4), 3-253 (Duckett, 54.3), 4-253 (Brook, 54.4), 5-302 (Stokes, 67.3).
INDIA BOWLING
Bumrah 19-3-57-0, Siraj 14-1-51-0, Jadeja 24-1-104-1, Prasidh 15-0-92-2, Shardul 10-0-51-2.
PoM: Duckett.
England won by five wickets to lead five-match series 1-0.
Second Test: July 2 to 6, Birmingham.
Match starts at 3.30 p.m. IST.

Siraj did toil hard, but without luck, as an edge off Duckett went through the vacant first slip area and Yashasvi Jaiswal dropped the left-hander on 97 running in from deep backward square-leg.

Keeping Duckett silent proved beyond even the experienced Ravindra Jadeja.

The left-arm spinner bowled to loaded on-side fields (6-3) but the southpaw destroyed him with a slew of excellent reverse-sweeps, with one of those ending up as an astonishing six as well. He hit seven sweeps in all, including the one that brought him his sixth Test hundred.

However, a 20-minute rain-delay turned the tide. Prasidh, who was mostly profligate, pitched the ball up to Crawley and the batter edged to K.L. Rahul at slip. The lanky speedster then breached Ollie Pope's defence off the inside edge.

Duckett and Root provided stability with a 47-run stand, but Shardul Thakur struck gold with two seemingly harmless deliveries.

Duckett drove a ball that came in like a loosener straight to substitute Nitish Kumar Reddy while Harry Brook, after charging at Shardul, ended up edging down the leg-side to Rishabh Pant first ball.

This was the only period when England appeared nervous, but it had two of its greatest cricketers in Root and Stokes (33, 51b, 4x4) as calming influences. The two – despite Stokes looking a tad unsettled – joined forces for a 49-run association before Root ensured a grandstand closing.

I won't single out anyone for the defeat: Gambhir

N. Sudarshan
LEEDS

As stinging as Tuesday's five-wicket reverse against England in the first Test at Headingley was, India coach Gautam Gambhir put up a brave face and refused to single out anyone.

There were dropped catches galore, twin lower-order batting failures and a bowling attack – with the honourable exception of Jasprit Bumrah – that blew hot and cold.

"The first thing is that catches get dropped," Gambhir said after the match. "The best fielders drop catches. The lower-order batting was a bit disappointing. If we had made 600 in the first innings, we could have dominated. Hopefully we will learn in the second Test [in Birmingham].

"But that is not the only reason we lost. Everyone wants to contribute and I won't single out anyone. We lose together and win together."

Asked if such a huge defeat where India allowed England to literally cruise to a 371-run target would demoralise a young team led by a first-time captain, Gambhir said that the loss will hurt the same, new team or not.

Big miss: Jaiswal, who struggled with his catching throughout the Test, drops Duckett on the final day. GETTY IMAGES

"Every defeat is bad. It's not about the young team. It's about the experience. We take pride in winning each and every game for our country. Young team is not an excuse. We represent 140 crore proud Indians and we will try and give our absolute best with no excuses."

Gambhir also confirmed that the loss will not change the fact that Bumrah will play only two more Tests during this tour.

"To manage his workload is more important. There's a lot of cricket going forward and we know what he brings to the table. Before we came on this tour, it was already decided that he was going to play three Test matches. We haven't decided which two other Tests he's going to play".

Rujula and Bhavya break meet records

NATIONAL AQUATICS

Y.B. Sarangi
BHUBANESWAR

Rujula S. and Bhavya Sachdeva swam confidently to break the women's 50m and 1500m freestyle meet records respectively and clinch gold medals in the National aquatics championships at the Kalinga Stadium Aquatic Centre here on Tuesday.

The 16-year-old Rujula benefited from her strong mindset and good preparation to improve upon her previous personal best of 26.91 and secured her maiden gold.

Going all out

"The distance was short, so I went all out," said Rujula. Bhavya swam tactically and increased the gap with others after the halfway stage as she shattered Malavika's 10-year-old record with a time of 17:35.07 and bagged her second gold.

"It was slower than I thought. After missing the mark in 2023, it feels good to achieve it," said Bhavya, who relocated from Australia to Bangkok for personal reasons.

Rapid: Bhavya shattered Malavika's 10-year-old 1500m freestyle record with a time of 17:35.07. BISWARANJAN ROUT

Competing in the lone 50m backstroke event, Olympian Srihari Nataraj, without a shave and clearly in training mode for the upcoming World University Games, clocked 25.86 in the heats and 25.70 in the final to claim the top honour. He narrowly missed his 2019 National record of 25.58.

Aryan Nehra, who set the National mark of 3:52.55 in 2023, fought back in the final 100m to regain the 400m freestyle crown (3:55.96).

Tamil Nadu (Nithik Nathella, Danush Suresh, B. Benedicton Rohit, Adhithya Dinesh) took the men's 4x100m medley relay gold with a record.

The results (winners only):
Men: 400m freestyle: Aryan Nehra (Guj) 3:55.96; **50m backstroke:** Srihari Nataraj (Kar) 25.70; **200m butterfly:** Sajan Prakash (AIP) 1:58.98; **4x100m medley relay:** Tamil Nadu 3:45.09 (NMR, Old 3:45.66, 2024).
Women: 50m freestyle: Rujula S. (Kar) 26.36 (NMR, Old 26.47, Rujuta Khade, 2023).
1500m freestyle: Bhavya Sachdeva (Del) 17:35.07 (NMR, Old 17:39. 16, Malavika V., 2015).
50m backstroke: Vihitha Nayana Loganathan (Kar) 29.99; **200m butterfly:** Astha Choudhury (RSPB) 2:20.63; **4x100m medley relay:** Karnataka 4:25.92.

'I did freestyle because I wanted a change without much focus'

Y.B. Sarangi
BHUBANESWAR

After setting the India best time in 200m freestyle earlier this month, two-time Olympian swimmer Srihari Nataraj is considering pursuing it along with his usual backstroke in 2026.

Srihari, who competed in the 100m backstroke in the Paris Olympics, hopes to make a decision early next year, in time for the Commonwealth Games and Asian Games.

Two chances

"I have two chances – World University Games (WUG) in Germany next month and Asian championships in Ahmedabad in October – to analyse things in 200m freestyle.

"I will decide in January or February whether I am going to stick to backstroke or do both," Srihari told *The Hindu* at the Kalinga Stadium on Tuesday.

On his freestyle mark in the Singapore National swimming championships, where he clocked 1:48.66 to break Sajan Prakash's four-year-old record of 1:49.73, Srihari said: "I took it as a preparatory event in Singapore. I did freestyle because I wanted a change without much focus. Freestyle is always a second event for me."

Srihari. BISWARANJAN ROUT

Next target

Srihari's next target is the WUG. "My performances are being analysed. I'm working on my strength and fine-tuning things," he said.

Growth

"It's my 10th year with the Indian squad. I've grown as a swimmer in the last two years.

"I know myself and my sport better now. My mind and body are in sync and I've developed as an athlete," said Srihari.

INBRIEF

Tilak smashes hundred on county debut for Hampshire

Tilak Varma marked his County Championship debut with a sizzling century for Hampshire against Essex in Chelmsford on Tuesday. Tilak, who came out to bat at No. 4, returned unbeaten on 98 after stumps on the second day. In the opening minutes of day three, Tilak pushed the ball into the gap and scurried for a double to raise his bat to celebrate a hard-fought hundred. However, Tilak's stay was cut short by Simon Harmer. Tilak's 100 from 241 deliveries laced with 11 fours and three towering sixes.

India thrashes Mongolia in Women's Asian Cup Qualifiers

India began its AFC Women's Asian Cup 2026 Qualifiers with a 13-0 victory over Mongolia at Chiang Mai (Thailand) on Monday. Pyari Xaxa (29th, 45th, 46th, 52nd and 55th minutes) netted five goals while Soumya Guguloth (20th and 59th) and Priyadharshini Selladurai (73rd and 86th) scored two each. Sangita Basfore (eighth), Rimpa Haldar (67th), Malavika (71th), and Grace Dangmei (75th-penalty) completed the tally.

Vaidehi Chaudhari enters the second round

Vaidehi Chaudhari beat qualifier Lisa-Marie Rioux of Japan 6-3, 6-4 in the first round of the $30,000 ITF women's tennis tournament in Taiwan on Tuesday.

The results: €596,035 ATP, Mallorca, Spain: Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Yuki Bhambri & Robert Galloway (USA) bt Gregoire Jacq & Alexandre Muller (Fra) 6-3, 6-3.

$15,000 ITF men, Monastir: Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Alejandro Pertusa (Esp) & Nitin Kumar Sinha bt Cesar Bouchelaghem & Romain Gales (Fra) 7-6(7), 6-3.

$30,000 ITF women, Taiwan: Singles (first round): Vaidehi Chaudhari bt Lisa-Marie Rioux (Jpn) 6-3, 6-4.

Inter Miami sets up last-16 clash with PSG

Palmeiras faces Botafogo in an all-Brazil clash in the knockout phase; European sides Atletico and Porto fail to progress; Al Ahly crashes out

CLUB WORLD CUP

Agence France-Presse
MIAMI

Inter Miami's Lionel Messi faces a tantalising reunion with former club Paris Saint-Germain (PSG) in the Club World Cup last 16 after both sides progressed to the knockout phase on Monday.

Miami drew 2-2 with Palmeiras to go through second in Group A, after the Brazilian side fought back from two goals down to seal top spot.

Palmeiras now faces Botafogo in an all-Brazil clash. The latter lost 1-0 to Atletico Madrid but progressed from Group B in second at the expense of the Spaniards.

European champion PSG won the group with a 2-0 victory over Seattle Sounders, paving the way for the clash with Messi and surprise package Miami.

Goals from Tadeo Allende and Luis Suarez had Miami on course for a second victory in the tournament after its shock win over Porto.

But Palmeiras struck twice in the last 10 minutes at Hard Rock Stadium through Paulinho and Mauricio to ensure it went through.

Suarez, Messi, Sergio Busquets, Jordi Alba and Miami coach Javier Mascherano will also face their former coach Luis Enrique, who guided them to the treble when in charge at Barcelona in 2015.

Mascherano said Miami's progress had elevated Major League Soccer.

Portuguese side Porto and Egypt's Al Ahly were eliminated after a thrilling 4-4 draw which was not enough for either team to overhaul Palmeiras or Miami.

PSG bounced back from its surprise defeat by Botafogo with a comfortable win in Seattle.

Khvicha Kvaratskhelia and Achraf Hakimi scored either side of half-time as the Ligue 1 champion advanced as group winner because of Botafogo's late defeat to Atletico in Pasadena.

PSG top-scorer Ousmane Dembele played no part for a third game running after travelling to the tournament with an injury.

Atletico's 4-0 defeat by PSG in its opener left it needing a big win over Botafogo to progress.

Former France international Antoine Griezmann scored the game's only goal, lashing home a Julian Alvarez cross in the 87th minute to give Atletico a victory that ultimately was in vain.

Atletico needed a two-goal swing and was upset at penalty appeals being turned down.

"I've never seen anything like it, to be honest, I think we should have been awarded two penalties," complained winger Giuliano Simeone.

On target: Suarez scores Miami's second goal against Palmeiras. AP

The results: Group A: Inter Miami 2 (Allende 16, Suarez 65) drew with Palmeiras 2 (Paulinho 80, Mauricio 87).
Porto 4 (Mora 23, Gomes 50, Aghehowa 53, Pepe 89) drew with Al Ahly 4 (Abou Ali 15, 45+2-pen, 51, Ben Romdhane 64).
Group B: Atletico Madrid 1 (Griezmann 87) bt Botafogo 0.
Seattle Sounders 0 lost to Paris Saint-Germain 2 (Kvaratskhelia 35, Hakimi 66).

Murad sets new meet mark

Sports Bureau

Murad Sirman set a new meet record twice in a single day en route winning the 400m hurdles on the final day of the 23rd National Junior Federation Cup athletics championships at the Madan Mohan Malviya Sports Stadium at Prayagraj on Tuesday.

Gujarat's Sirman clocked 50.75 seconds. Sirman bettered Durgesh Kumar Pal's previous record (51.76 seconds, 2012) in the semifinals with a timing of 51 seconds before doing it again in the evening.

The results (winners only): Men: 200m: J. Pandiyan (TN, 21.33s), **400mH:** Murad Sirman (Guj, 50.75s), **800m**: Mogali Venkatram Reddy (NCOE Ben, 1:49.94), **5000m:** Rahul Verma (Chg, 14:20.11), **3000m SC:** Navratan (Har, 9:05.75), **Shot put:** Anurag Singh (UP, 18.99m), **Triple jump:** S. Ravi (TN, 15.44m), **High jump**: Basant (Raj, 2.11m), **Javelin throw:** Dipesh Choudhary (Raj, 72.98m).
Women: 200m: Dhesikha V. (TN, 24.44s), **400mH:** Tanu Chaudhary (NCOE Pat, 1:01.09), **800m:** Prateeksha Yadav (UP, 2:07.89), **5000m:** Priyanka Oksa (NJC, 17:07.09).
3000m SC: Sakshi Borhade (Mah, 10:50.39), **Triple jump:** Sadhana Ravi (12.75m), **Hammer throw:** Anushka Yadav (UP, 60.46m), **Javelin throw:** Bhavya Pilania (JSW, 47.65m), **Heptathlon:** Sriteja Tholem (Tel, 4735 pts).

LIVE TELECAST

Football: Club World Cup, DAZN, 6.30 a.m. (Wednesday); 12.30 a.m. (Thursday)
Sri Lanka vs Bangladesh: 2nd Test, day 1, Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 10 a.m.
TNPL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & FanCode, 7.15 p.m.
West Indies vs Australia: 1st Test, day 1, FanCode, 7.30 p.m.

Bhanwala leads after the first stage

SHOOTING

Sports Bureau

Anish Bhanwala shot 293 in the first stage of rapid fire pistol in the National shooting selection trials at the Trishul Academy in Maharana Pratap Sports College on Tuesday.

Vijayveer Sidhu followed one point behind. The top six after the second stage on Wednesday will make the final.

The rifle and pistol shooters have the third and fourth trials and are scheduled to shoot 16 finals over the next six days in the 10-metre, 25-metre and 50-metre events.

Medals assured for India in two sections

Sports Bureau

India confirmed its place on the podium in both the men's and women's doubles categories of the second Asian doubles squash championships at Kuching (Malaysia).

In the men's doubles quarterfinals, Abhay Singh and Velavan Senthilkumar defeated Korea's Minwoo Lee and Jooyoung Na 10-11, 11-3, 11-5. With the victory, the duo advanced to the semifinals having assured itself of a medal.

In women's doubles, Joshana Chinappa and Anahat Singh scripted a facile 11-6, 11-3 victory over the Philippines' Jemyca Aribado and Yvonne Alyssa Dalida.

The result also ensured a medal for India in the women's division.

Kumar — a master whose love for his craft was pure

BETWEEN WICKETS
Suresh Menon

At 90, Vaman Vishwanath Kumar's passion for cricket remains, and of regrets there is no sign. At another time, perhaps in any other country, he might have had a long career as a leg spinner in the classical mould. When he made his debut against Pakistan with a five-wicket haul in 1960-61, chief selector Vijay Hazare said, "We have a spinner for another ten years." Hazare was right in a way. We had a spinner for twenty years, but those years were devoted to Tamil Nadu, not India.

"He had mastery over his craft, and a passion that saw him at our nets bowling continuously from beginning to end of the session. He understood different wickets and knew how to bowl on each, making slight adjustments. He used the breeze blowing across the ground more effectively than most spinners," recalled former Tamil Nadu opener V. Sivaramakrishnan who played Ranji Trophy with him. Gundappa Vishwanath, one of the finest players of spin said, with a mixture of pride and praise for an opponent, "I didn't play too badly against VV." He went on to say, "He was responsible for my only pair in first class cricket. Venkatraghavan had me caught for zero in the first innings. In the second I was stumped off Kumar, and that too defending, at Chepauk.

"His accuracy was unbelievable; his love for the game extraordinary. I saw him at Chepauk after he had turned 50, bowling in the afternoon at a single stump in an empty net."

Perhaps that's it. There's a purity about Kumar's love for the game that enabled him to take the disappointments in his stride. That, and his sense of humour which made light of setbacks. It all began with a golf ball which Kumar "bought for four annas" when he was 11 and discovered that "when you throw an off-break against a wall it came back as leg spin. And the more revs you employed, the faster it came back."

Fantastic debut

Kumar had to take 143 wickets in five Ranji seasons (average 17.86) from 1955 before he could impress the selectors who were looking for a leg spinner to replace Subhash Gupte. With the sixth ball of his first over, Kumar dismissed Imtiaz Ahmed and finished with figures of 37.5-21-64-5. Any idea of settling in for a long international career ended after the following Test, against England, against whom he played with an injured wrist. "I was only fifty percent fit," recalled Kumar in a telephone conversation, speaking with the same urgency and clarity I remember from the first time we met some four decades ago. "I played because the Board bigwigs insisted. They were convinced the Englishmen couldn't play spin. M.J. Gopalan came home to convince me."

Ken Barrington made an unbeaten 151, Kumar went wicketless, giving away 70 runs in 27 overs, although with some luck he could have had Barrington and Ted Dexter stumped. Chandu Borde, bowling leg spin, had three for 90. The Indian thinking those days was that a batter who could bowl a bit was preferable to a specialist. When the Indian team for the West Indies was picked, Kumar wasn't in it. In the first Test at Port of Spain, all the main spinners – Polly Umrigar, Borde, Salim Durrani, and Bapu Nadkarni – were the leading batters too.

Praise for Gupte

The search for Gupte's successor, which should have ended with Kumar, continued. "Subhash and I were friends from my university days," said Kumar, "He could not only turn the ball appreciably, he could control the amount of turn too. We bowled a similar arc. He could turn the ball on glass, and understood how to bowl on different days of the match." It is a wonderful tribute from the practitioner of a similar craft.

Kumar's generosity, his empathy and his passion come through in conversation. In the home series following the West Indies tour, Bhagwat Chandrasekhar made his debut, against England, and, as Kumar said without any rancour, "India's great spin combination began to take shape." A member of that combination, Srinivas Venkatraghavan, was Kumar's partner for years in the Ranji Trophy. Together they claimed 949 wickets, Kumar being the first to 300 wickets and then 400.

V.V. Kumar might have been born in the wrong era, but his values are eternal.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Thumping win for Pillanna Garden FC

Pillanna Garden FC crushed Afghan FC 5-0 in the pre-quarterfinals of the BDFA 'C' division football league here on Tuesday.

The results: BDFA 'C' division league: Pre-quarterfinals: Konkan FC bt RBI FC 4-1; Pillanna Garden FC bt Afghan FC 5-0; Indiranagar FC bt Misaka United FC 2-2 (via 6-5 on penalties); Maharaja Socials FC bt Muslims Heroes FC 5-1.
KSFA 'C' division league: La Esperanza bt Hawks United Sports 1-0; Stadium FC bt Bangalore North FC 2-1; FC Mangalore bt Undisputed FC 8-0; Agniputhra FC drew with Kickstart Academy 0-0.

DPS HC runs riot

Delhi Public School HC hammered Blue Star HC 'B' 7-0 in the Travancore Cup hockey tournament.

The results: Delhi Public School HC 7 (Mohammed Kaif 3, 44, K.V. Shahanul Shafas 4, 11, Jitheesh 10, 21, Sibin Balakrishnan 39) bt Blue Star HC 'B' 0; RWFSA 2 (Umesh Gowda 24, J.P. Kusha 30) bt Rising Star HC 1 (Chethan 27).

Chess tournament

The Champions Chess Academy will conduct a chess tournament in Krishna Garden, Rajarajeshwari Nagar on Sunday, 29th June for under-10 players from 2:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and under-16 players from 9:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.. The entry fee for students not part of the academy is ₹300. The last date for enrollment is 27th June. For more details, call Balakrishna Prabhu: 9845466416 or visit *www.championschessacademy.com*.

Lochan notches up a double ton

S. Lochan Gowda (243) starred for Social Cricketers against Cambridge Cricket Club in the KSCA Group I, Division I league here.
In another encounter, Samit Dravid (58 n.o.) and Anvay Dravid 31 (n.o.), sons of former India captain Rahul Dravid, came good for Vijaya CC.

The scores: Division I, Group I: Social Cricketers 514 in 87.1 overs (S. Lochan Gowda 243, S.H. Swaroop 51, S. Aadarsh Prajwal 64, Shaun Tristan Joseph 87 n.o., V. Uttam Gowda 4/54, M. Advith Shetty 3/62) drew with Cambridge Cricket Club 49 in 19.3 overs (Santosh 5/28) & 225/5 in 65 overs (R. Suhas 33, Shubhang Hegde 102 n.o., Rehan Mohammed 39 n.o.).
Swastic Union Cricket Club (1) 469 in 88.4 overs (Prakhar Chaturvedi 213, A. Rohan Patil 83, Nitish Arya 70, Mitrakant Singh Yadav 4/94, P. Madhav Bajaj 4/127) drew with Century Cricketers 341 in 86.3 overs (R.V. Rohit 129, Harsha Wardhan Khuba 101, Adhoksh 31, Abhilash 3/41, Paras Gurbax Arya 3/106).
Jawans Cricket Club 257 in 66.3 overs (Pratheek 98, Ishaan S 33, N.V. Pranav 3/52) drew with Swastic Union Cricket Club (2) 296 in 83 overs (B.N. Yashwant 46, N.A. Chinmay 128 n.o., S. Sathwik Sairaj 32, S. Ishaan 4/71, J. Dheeraj Gowda 3/73).
Bangalore United Cricket Club (1) 265 in 80.1 overs (Sharath Srinivas 57, Vishal Kothari 47, Yashovardhan Parantap 4/53) drew with Vijaya Cricket Club 281/4 in 68 overs (Tushar Singh 52, S.J. Aadharsh 84, Samit Dravid 58 n.o., Anvay Dravid 31 n.o.).
Herons Cricket Club 228 in 69.3 overs (Prajwal Pavan 43, J. Rishab Navarathan 40, K.M. Pravesh 50, V. Koushik 3/26, S. Shreesha Achar 3/64) & 32 for no loss in 15.3 overs drew with Bangalore Occasionals 328/9 in 61.2 overs (Niranjan 46, Suraj Ahuja 100, S. Shivaraj 45, M.G. Naveen 70, K.M. Pravesh 3/62, Kushal Pramesh 3/63).
Rajajinagar Cricketers 336 in 76.5 overs (R.V. Nikhil Vedanth 34, N. Rohan 49, D. Avinash 161 and Santokh Singh 3/59, Abhishek Ahlawat 4/62) drew with Vultures Cricket Club 361/7 in 84.1 overs (Manikanth Shivanand 44, Kruthik Krishna 75, Praveen Dubey 134 n.o., Shikhar Shetty 51, Dhuri 3/43).
Sir Syed Cricketers 358 in 88.4 overs (S.J. Nikin Jose 116, Luvnith Sisodia 46, B.A. Mohith 57, Shreyank Sagar 50, L.R. Kumar 39, S.M. Shamanth 6/86) drew with Coles Cricket Club 228/5 in 61.2 overs (Ashwin Santosh 38, K.S. Lankesh 73, Gowtham Sagar 66 n.o.).
Division II, Group I: Mount Joy Cricket Club 313 in 66.1 overs (Sudeep Sateri 53, R. Chirag Nayak 35, Syaamantak Anirudh 43, Aditya Somanna 41, M.B. Darshan 45, A.N. Pradyumna 5/75) drew with Chintamani Sports Association 101 in 34.5 overs (Likhit Bannur 3/13) & 225/6 in 58 overs (Aaron Cyril Christie 37, Amogh Srikanth 68 n.o., Shreehaan Arinjai 43 n.o., Likhit Bannur 4/99).
Jayanagar Cricketers 191 in 52.2 overs (Sean Pratyush Cyril 42, M. Saharsh Reddy 32, Younus Ali Baig 31, Eshwar Nayak 56, S.K. Rathod 4/49, Kushal Gouda 4/51) drew with Engrades Cricket Club 106 in 28.3 overs (Mohammad Kaif Dange 34, Shimon Luiz 5/29, Prithviraj 4/28).
Visweswarapuram Cricket Club (1) 196 in 58.4 overs (Amay Tejas 36, Nishith Raj 37, Eesa Hakeem Puthige 3/37, R.J. Mankalesh 5/56) & 190/8 in 29 overs (Nishith Raj 53, V. Srithan 35, Rahul Singh Rawat 53, J. Sukruth 3/46) drew with Modern Cricket Club 198 in 57.2 overs (Talha Sheriff 32, A. Akshay Kamath 47, J. Sukruth 44 n.o., Surendra Rathore 56, Adrick Cardoza 4/46, Harmain 5/55) & 37/0 in 12 overs.
Visweswarapuram Cricket Club (2) 91 in 32.5 overs (Vallabh Hegde 3/23, Dhyaan Mahesh Hiremath 6/20) & 231/5 in 52 overs (B. Krithin 89, Ansh Aima 33, A. Atharv Karulkar 57 n.o., Dhyaan Mahesh Hiremath 3/86) drew with Jawahar Sports Club (1) 138 in 55.4 overs (Vedanth Iyer 75 n.o., Daman Deep Singh 5/34, A. Pavan Kumar 4/42) & 30/2 in 19.3 overs.
Jupiter Cricketers Association 330 in 90 overs (S. Ananth 107, Smaran Ramesh 68. C.H. Nayan 83, Aditya Rao 4/44) drew with Friends Union Cricket Club (1) 311 in 75.1 overs (B.U. Shivakumar 99, R. Rohan Revankar 51, Rajendra Danganavar 75 n.o., S. Sujay Kulkarni 6/58).
Palar Sports Club 321 in 75.1 overs (D. Chiranth 51, N. Yash 109, Preetesh 50, Neeraj 3/52, S. Chiranth 3/93, J. Karthik 3/62) drew with Minerva Cricket Club 262 in 71.4 overs (B. Rushi Shetty 32, Arnav Arun Bharadwaj 72, S. Sumukha Prasad 51, S. Leshan 5/57).
Malleswaram Gymkhana 178 in 56.4 overs (M. Rohan Yareshmi 51, Vaasav Venkatesh 39, M. Keerthi 4/59, B. Vineeth 3/39) & 102/4 in 38 overs (Vaasav Venkatesh 35) drew with Dooravani Cricketers (1) 312 in 75.4 overs (Aarav Shriyan 55, Karna Surya Vamshi 74, M. Keerthi 39, M.P. Shashank 31, P. Aevant Khothari 49 n.o., L. Yashwant Reddy 3/52, Ashutosh Khuba 4/51).
The Bangalore Cricketers 253 in 84.5 overs (P. Gourav 96, D. Bharath 56 and Hrishith Shetty) drew with Jawahar Sports Club (2) 184/6 in 69.1 overs (M. Rahul 30, Nitesh 39, Hrishith Shetty 35, R. Ajith 39 n.o., Vinayak Holla 4/37).

SNAPSHOTS

Paras Gupta storms into the semifinal

COLOMBO: India's Paras Gupta, who outplayed reigning IBSF World 6-red snooker champion Kamal Chawla earlier in the day, scored a crushing 5-0 win over Sunny Wang to storm into the semifinal of the ACBS Asian 6-red snooker championship here on Tuesday.
The 29-year-old Agra cueist played the big points well to put it past the Singaporean.
In the semifinals, he will face either Habib Sabah (Bahrain) or Ali Al Obaidli (Qatar).
Earlier, Paras proved too good for Chawla, scoring a lop-sided 5-2 victory.
The results:
Quarterfinals: Paras Gupta (Ind) bt Sunny Wang (Sin) 35-28, 44-9, 40-2, 53-12, 59(59)-0.
Pre-quarterfinals: Paras bt Kamal Chawla (Ind) 45-0, 63(47)-4, 36(30)-19, 26-35, 41-34, 25-34, 37(33)-0.

Rutuja and Manisha land gold medals

VUNG TAU (VIETNAM): Women wrestlers Rutuja Gurav (46kg) and Manisha (69kg) landed gold medals at the Asian under-17 wrestling championships here on Tuesday. Cheshta (40kg) and Tina Punia (61kg) took silver medals, while Saarika (53kg) won a bronze. In Greco Roman, Sachin Kumar (80kg) claimed a bronze.

Murray to help design his own statue at Wimbledon

LONDON: Two-time Wimbledon champion Andy Murray will help design a statue of himself to mark the grass-court tournament's 150th anniversary in 2027. Wimbledon organisers said on Tuesday that they aim to unveil the statue of the British tennis great during the 2027 edition. "He's got to rightly be very involved in that and him and his team will be," the All England Club chairwoman Debbie Jevans said.